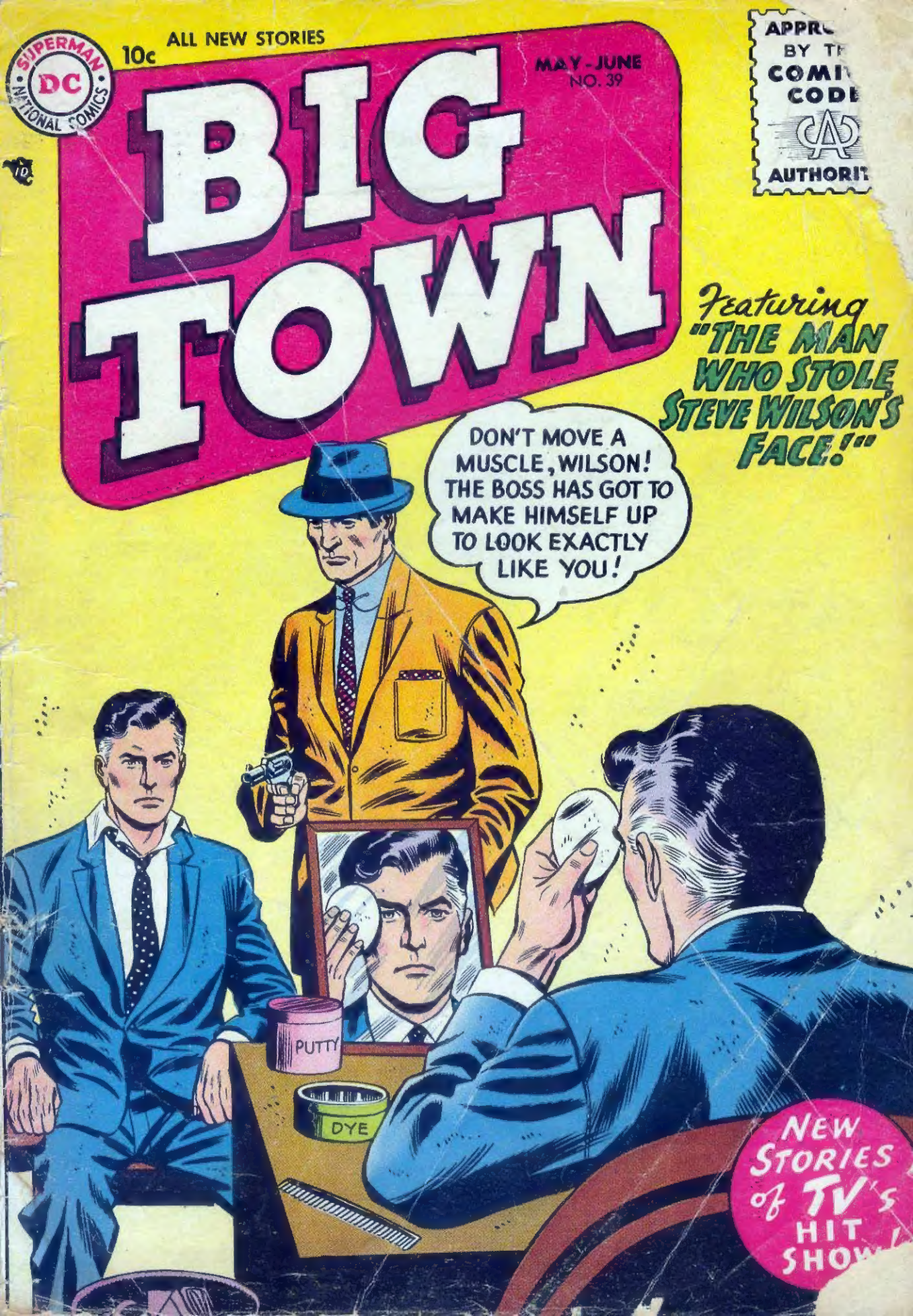
SUPERMAN
DC
NATIONAL COMICS
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ALL NEW STORIES
MAY-JUNE
NO. 39
BIG TOWN
APPR
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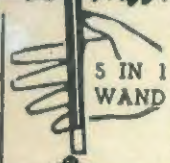
CODE
AUTHORI
Featuring
"THE MAN WHO STOLE STEVE WILSON'S FACE!"
DON'T MOVE A MUSCLE, WILSON! THE BOSS HAS GOT TO MAKE HIMSELF UP TO LOOK EXACTLY LIKE YOU!
PUTTY
DYE
NEW STORIES of TV'S HIT

MYSTERY! MAGIC! SCIENCE! FUN!

To Amuse and Amaze Your Friends



A necessary tool for the amateur magician and a good joke too. Plastic, 14 inches long with white tips and a black center. 5 exciting tricks—Rises, jumps, produces silk, etc
No. 240..... **1.50**

Boomerang

Here's something new in target throwing. In case you miss, it comes right back to you, and bingo! you're all set to "fire" again. More fun than a "barrel of monkeys".
No. 141..... **50¢**

THROW YOUR VOICE

Ventro & Book

Your chance to be a ventriloquist. Throw your voice into trunks, behind doors, and everywhere. Instrument fits in your mouth and out of sight. You'll fool the teacher, your friends, and your family and have fun doing it. Free book on "How to Become a Ventriloquist"
No. 137..... **25¢**

RADIO MIKE

Talk, Sing, Play thru your radio

Sing, laugh, talk, crack jokes from an other room and your voice will be reproduced thru the radio! Fool everybody into thinking it's coming right out of the radio. Easily attached to most standard radios. Made of handsome enameled metal 4 inches high. No. 112..... **1.98**

Your chance to have eyes in back of your head. See behind or alongside and no one knows you are watching. Fun everywhere you go.
No. 146..... **35¢**

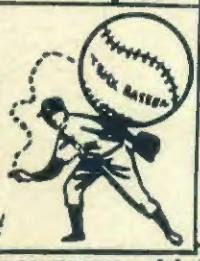
LOOK-BACK SCOPE

WHOOPEE CUSHION

Place it on a chair under a cushion, then watch the fun when someone sits down! It gives forth embarrassing noises. Made of rubber, and inflatable. A scream at parties and gatherings.
No. 247..... **50¢**

TRICK BASEBALL

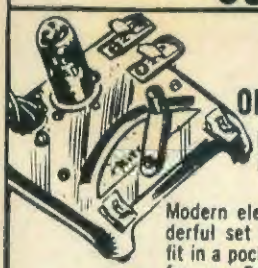
It bounces cockeyed, it curves, it dips, it's impossible to catch. It's sure to set all the kids on the block spinning after it. There's a barrel of fun in every bounce of this amazing baseball. No. 158 **50¢**



TALKING TEETH

They move! They talk! They're weird! Guaranteed to shut the blabbermouths up for good. It'll really embarrass them. It's a set of big false teeth that when wound up, start to chatter away, like crazy. A great comic effect for false teeth on cold nights.
No. 513..... **1.25**

MANY EXCLUSIVE ITEMS AVAILABLE



POWERFUL COMPACT ONE TUBE RADIO

Pocket Size . . . Brings in stations up to 1000 miles away

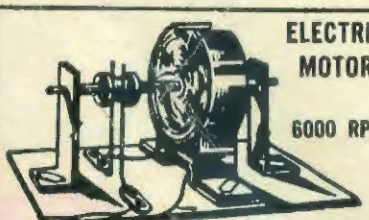
Modern electronics makes this wonderful set possible. So small it will fit in a pocket. Everything is supplied for you. Easy to assemble in a few minutes with just a screw driver. No soldering required. Really powerful too. Announcements of stations up to 1000 miles away come in so loud and clear you'd think they were right near home. Learn many useful and important things about radio.
No. 205..... **3.98**

BLACK EYE JOKE

Show them the "naughty" pictures inside. They'll twist it and turn it to see, but all they do is blacken their eyes.
No. 216..... **25¢**

Costume Set Designed for Every Boy

Style 160 — For you he-men, we've got the newest, most exciting and tremendous play suit of its time. A complete Superman outfit in fine durable washable rayon gabardine. Outfit includes red cape with screened Superman figure, navy and red suit with gilt figure "S", and belt. Be first to get this wonderful outfit. Sizes 4-14. ..... **6.98**



ELECTRIC MOTOR

6000 RPM

—Drives all Models

This is an offer that sounds unbelievable but it is being made just the same. Yes, you can have an actual electric motor for just 50c. This compact little kit makes it a cinch to build this high-power motor. And the fun you are going to get from using it, it's so simple, and your motor is ready to turn out 6000 rpm's of power to work for you. The coils of this remarkable tool actually turn at the rate of 1500 feet per minute.
No. 052 ..... Only **50¢**

JOY BUZZER

The most popular joke novelty in years! Wind up and wear it like a ring. When you shake hands, it almost raises the victim off his feet with a "shocking sensation" Absolutely harmless.
No. 239 ..... Only **50¢**

10 DAY TRIAL FREE

HONOR HOUSE PRODUCTS CORP., Lynbrook, N. Y. Dept. 95

Cannot ship orders totalling less than $1.00.

Rush me the items listed below. If I am not satisfied I may return any part of my purchase after 10 days free trial for full refund of the purchase price.

ITEM #	NAME OF ITEM	HOW MANY	TOTAL PRICE

☐ I enclose ..... in full payment. The Honor House Products Corp. will pay postage.
☐ Send C.O.D. I will pay postman on delivery plus a few cents postage.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

BIG TOWN

LORELEI, THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY I CAN FIND THE GANG LEADER WHO MADE UP AS ME--AND FOOLED THE POLICE! THAT'S BY MAKING UP AS HIM--AND FOOLING THE UNDERWORLD!
STRATED PRESS
DIAMONY JEWELRY
OMPANY ROBBED!
JOHNNY STAR SUSPECTED

STEVE WILSON HAD ONLY HIS KEEN MEMORY TO RELY ON WHEN HE ATTEMPTED ONE OF THE MOST DIFFICULT AND DARING FEATS OF HIS CAREER! FOR THOUGH HE HAD SEEN THE MYSTERIOUS "GANG LEADER" ONLY ONCE, THE ACE NEWSMAN HAD TO ALTER HIS FEATURES TO THOSE OF THE UNDERWORLD CHIEF IN ORDER TO TRACK HIM DOWN--AND PREVENT A BIG JEWEL ROBBERY!

THE MAN WHO STOLE STEVE WILSON'S FACE!

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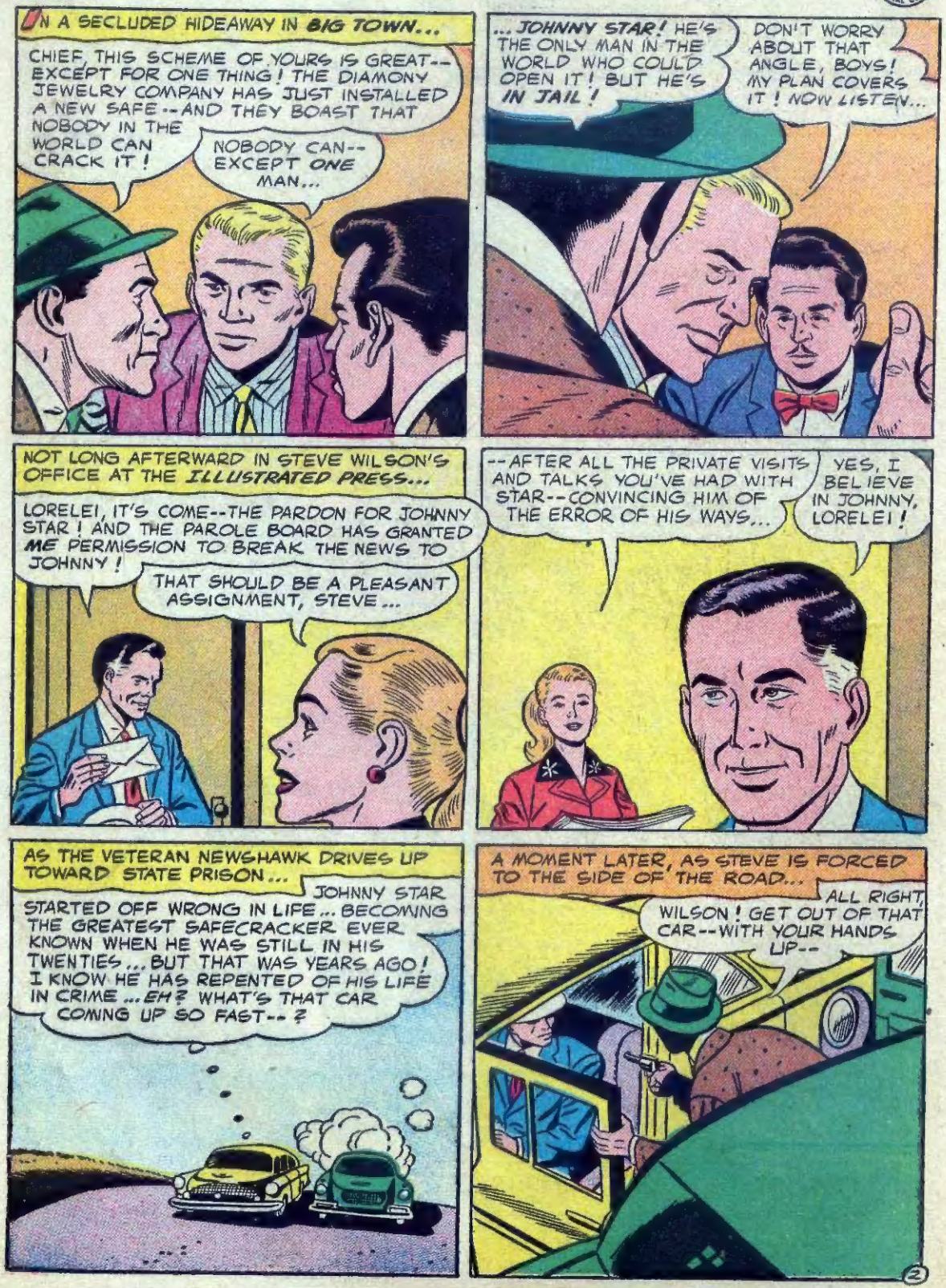

IN A SECLUDED HIDEAWAY IN BIG TOWN...
CHIEF, THIS SCHEME OF YOURS IS GREAT--EXCEPT FOR ONE THING! THE DIAMONY JEWELRY COMPANY HAS JUST INSTALLED A NEW SAFE--AND THEY BOAST THAT NOBODY IN THE WORLD CAN CRACK IT!
NOBODY CAN--EXCEPT ONE MAN...
...JOHNNY STAR! HE'S THE ONLY MAN IN THE WORLD WHO COULD OPEN IT! BUT HE'S IN JAIL!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT THAT ANGLE, BOYS! MY PLAN COVERS IT! NOW LISTEN...
NOT LONG AFTERWARD IN STEVE WILSON'S OFFICE AT THE ILLUSTRATED PRESS...
LORELEI, IT'S COME--THE PARDON FOR JOHNNY STAR! AND THE PAROLE BOARD HAS GRANTED ME PERMISSION TO BREAK THE NEWS TO JOHNNY!
THAT SHOULD BE A PLEASANT ASSIGNMENT, STEVE...
--AFTER ALL THE PRIVATE VISITS AND TALKS YOU'VE HAD WITH STAR--CONVINCING HIM OF THE ERROR OF HIS WAYS...
YES, I BELIEVE IN JOHNNY, LORELEI!
AS THE VETERAN NEWSHAWK DRIVES UP TOWARD STATE PRISON...
JOHNNY STAR STARTED OFF WRONG IN LIFE... BECOMING THE GREATEST SAFECRACKER EVER KNOWN WHEN HE WAS STILL IN HIS TWENTIES... BUT THAT WAS YEARS AGO! I KNOW HE HAS REPENTED OF HIS LIFE IN CRIME... EH? WHAT'S THAT CAR COMING UP SO FAST--?
A MOMENT LATER, AS STEVE IS FORCED TO THE SIDE OF THE ROAD...
ALL RIGHT, WILSON! GET OUT OF THAT CAR--WITH YOUR HANDS UP--

MOMENTS LATER, IN THE GUNMEN'S CAR...
WHERE ARE YOU TAKING ME? WHAT ARE YOU UP TO?
THIS AIN'T NO INTERVIEW, WILSON! JUST SIT TIGHT! YOU'LL FIND OUT SOON ENOUGH!
SOON AFTER, IN THE GANGSTER'S HIDEAWAY...
HERE HE IS, CHIEF-- STEVE WILSON IN PERSON!
GREAT! SIT HIM DOWN RIGHT THERE, BOYS! I'M READY...
DON'T MOVE A MUSCLE, WILSON! MAKE OUT LIKE YOU'RE SITTIN' FOR YOUR PORTRAIT!
GREAT SCOTT! HE-HE'S MAKING UP AS ME!
PUTTY
HAIR DYE
OKAY--I'M FINISHED! WHAT DO YOU SAY? DID I DO A GOOD JOB?
CHIEF, IT'S AMAZING -- YOU LOOK LIKE HIS TWIN!
SHORTLY, AT THE GATES OF STATE PRISON...
STEVE WILSON? OH, YES, MR. WILSON -- WARDEN HOWARD IS EXPECTING YOU! I'LL GET A MAN TO TAKE YOU UP TO HIS OFFICE!
IN THE WARDEN'S OFFICE, SOME MINUTES LATER...
YOUR TALKS WITH STAR HAVE DONE HIM A WORLD OF GOOD, STEVE! I'M SURE THE PAROLE BOARD WAS FAVORABLY IMPRESSED WITH HIS INTERVIEW LAST WEEK--
IF THE PARDON COMES THROUGH, THIS WILL BE MY LAST PRIVATE SESSION WITH HIM...

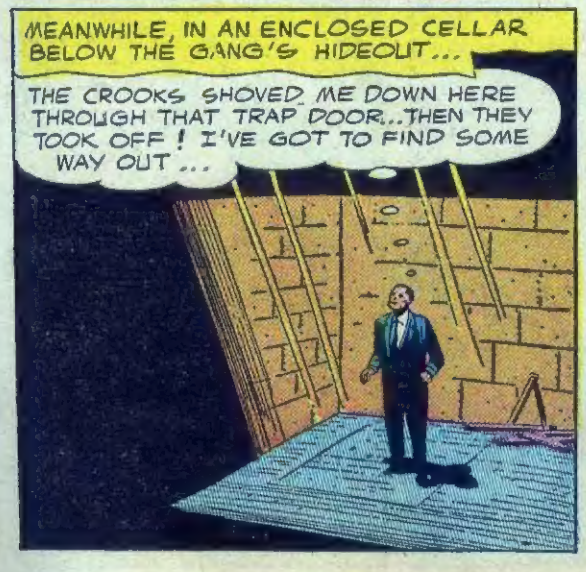
IN A ROOM ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF THE PRISON, SOON AFTER...
HELLO, MR. WILSON! I ALWAYS LOOK FORWARD TO OUR TALKS...
WHEN THE DOOR CLOSES BEHIND THE GUARD, LEAVING THE DUO ALONE...
DO EXACTLY AS I TELL YOU, STAR--OR YOU WON'T LEAVE THIS ROOM ALIVE!
1701
AT THAT INSTANT, A LAUNDRY TRUCK PULLS INTO THE SERVICE ENTRANCE OF THE PRISON...
THIS IS A TRICKY BUSINESS...I SURE HOPE THE CHIEF KNOWS WHAT HE'S UP TO!
GO AHEAD...
ACME
UNDRY
MOMENTS LATER, AFTER THE TRUCK HAS BACKED UP TO ONE OF THE ENTRANCES ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF THE PRISON...
GET IN THERE, STAR--QUICK--UNDER THAT LAUNDRY!
HUSTLE, CHIEF--THERE'S A GUARD COMIN' THIS WAY!
THEN, AS THE TRUCK DOOR SWINGS SHUT, AND THE DRIVER PUTS IT IN GEAR...
IT'S WORKING OUT! NOW I GIVE THEM FIVE MINUTES TO DISAPPEAR--AND THEN PUT ON MY ACT...
ACME
EXACTLY FIVE MINUTES LATER...
HELP! STAR SLUGGED ME--RAN AWAY!
HUH?
GET THE WARDEN!

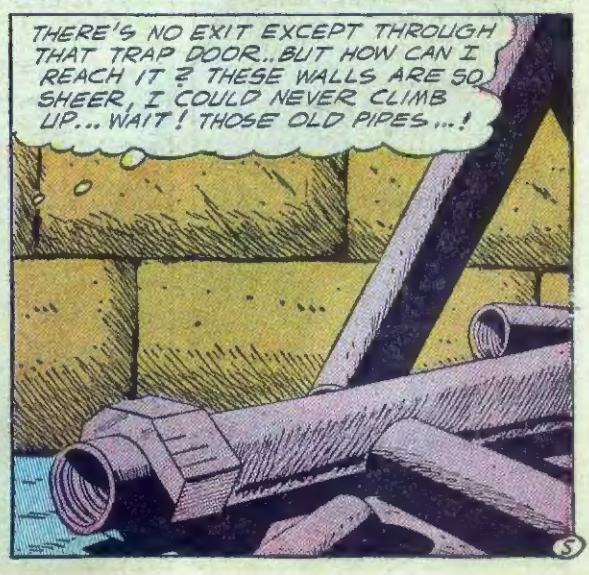
WILSON! WHAT HAPPENED?
STAR HIT ME, WARDEN! I BLACKED OUT--THAT'S THE LAST I REMEMBER! IT LOOKS LIKE HE'S ESCAPED!

AT THE DIAMONY JEWELRY COMPANY, NOT LONG AFTERWARD...
JOHNNY STAR HAS BROKEN PRISON, MR. FOLWELL!
YES, AND I'M AFRAID I KNOW WHY, CLARK! WE HAVE BEEN PUBLICIZING OUR NEW SAFE AS ONE NO BURGLAR COULD CRACK...

...BUT STAR WAS THE GREATEST SAFE-CRACKER EVER KNOWN! NO DOUBT OUR NEW SAFE PRESENTED A CHALLENGE TO HIM THAT HE COULDN'T RESIST! HE WON'T REST NOW UNTIL HE'S PITTED HIS SKILL AGAINST IT! WE HAVE TO TAKE EMERGENCY MEASURES!
SUCH AS WHAT, SIR?

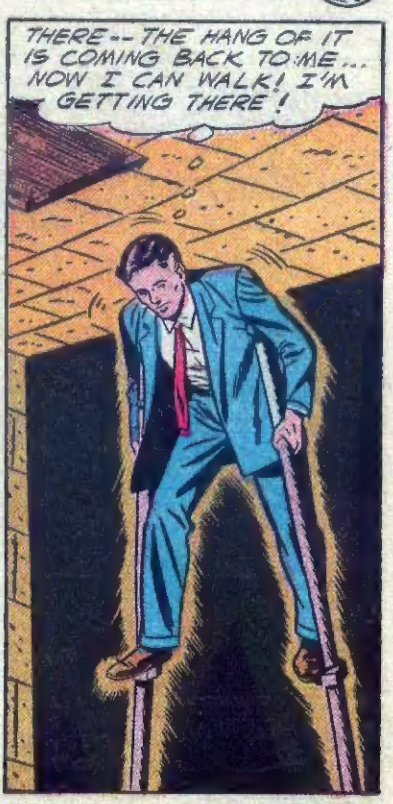
THIS! WE'LL PUT OUR PRICELESS COLLECTION OF JEWELS IN THIS SMALL SAFE WHICH WE STOPPED USING WHEN WE GOT THE BIG ONE! EVEN IF STAR SOMEHOW MANAGES TO OPEN THE BIG ONE--HE'LL FIND IT EMPTY! HE WOULDN'T DREAM OF LOOKING IN HERE!


MEANWHILE, IN AN ENCLOSED CELLAR BELOW THE GANG'S HIDEOUT...
THE CROOKS SHOVED ME DOWN HERE THROUGH THAT TRAP DOOR..THEN THEY TOOK OFF! I'VE GOT TO FIND SOME WAY OUT...


THERE'S NO EXIT EXCEPT THROUGH THAT TRAP DOOR..BUT HOW CAN I REACH IT? THESE WALLS ARE SO SHEER, I COULD NEVER CLIMB UP... WAIT! THOSE OLD PIPES...!

IF I CAN TURN THESE PIPES INTO STILTS, I MIGHT BE ABLE TO REACH THAT TRAP DOOR! I USED TO BE PRETTY GOOD ON STILTS WHEN I WAS A KID!

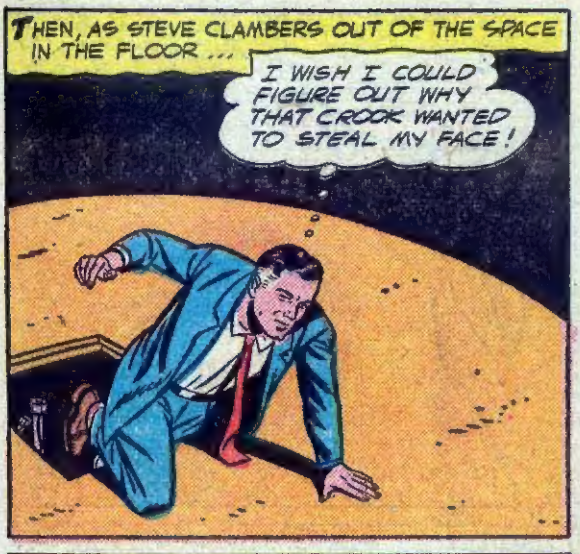
SHORTLY, BY JOINING SEVERAL PIECES OF PIPE TOGETHER, STEVE IMPROVISES A PAIR OF STILTS...
THEY'RE WORKING... BUT I'VE SURE GOTTEN STALE AT STILT WALKING! WHEW... I CAN HARDLY KEEP MY BALANCE...

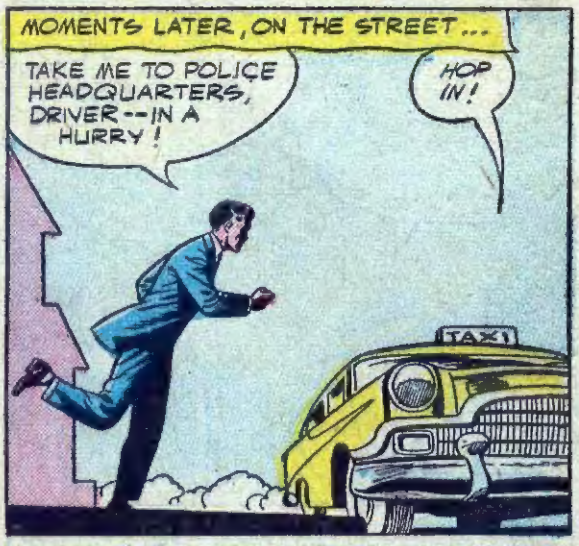

THERE-- THE HANG OF IT IS COMING BACK TO ME... NOW I CAN WALK! I'M GETTING THERE!

MOMENTS LATER, AFTER THE AGILE NEWSMAN HAS WORKED HIS WAY TOWARD HIS OBJECTIVE...
CAN'T BUDGE THE TRAP DOOR! IT'S... HEAVY... AS IF THEY'VE PUT A WEIGHT ON IT TO HOLD IT DOWN! THAT ABOUT FINISHES IT FOR ME... UNLESS...

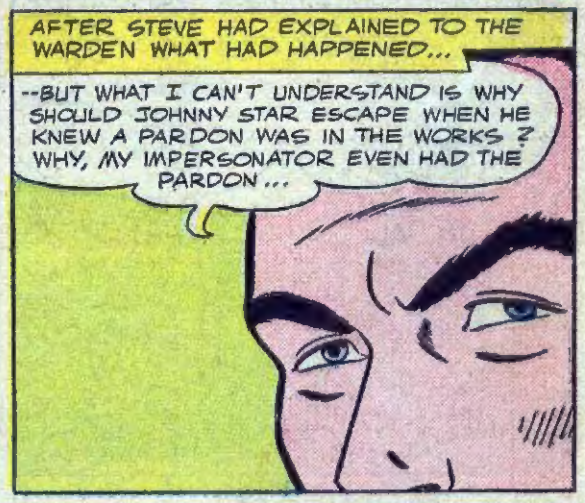
ON A SUDDEN INSPIRATION, THE CANNY ILLUSTRATED PRESS-MAN TURNS HIS ATTENTION TO THE TRAP DOOR'S HINGES...
MY ALL-PURPOSE PEN-KNIFE COMES IN HANDY HERE! LITTLE BY LITTLE... I'M GETTING OUT THE SCREWS THAT HOLD THESE HINGES IN PLACE!

THEN, AS THE LAST SCREW IS LOOSENED...
JUST AS I FIGURED, WITH THE HINGES LOOSENED, THE WEIGHT ON THE DOOR PUSHED IT RIGHT DOWN!


THEN, AS STEVE CLAMBERS OUT OF THE SPACE IN THE FLOOR ...
I WISH I COULD FIGURE OUT WHY THAT CROOK WANTED TO STEAL MY FACE!


MOMENTS LATER, ON THE STREET...
TAKE ME TO POLICE HEADQUARTERS, DRIVER--IN A HURRY!
HOP IN!
TAXI

LATER THAT DAY, IN A CONFERENCE WITH WARDEN HOWARD OF STATE PRISON, AND POLICE LIEUTENANT GREGGORY...
THEN IT WASN'T STEVE WILSON--IT WAS AN IMPOSTOR WHO CAME TO SEE JOHNNY STAR?
WHAT A CUNNING PLOT TO EFFECT STAR'S ESCAPE...


AFTER STEVE HAD EXPLAINED TO THE WARDEN WHAT HAD HAPPENED...
--BUT WHAT I CAN'T UNDERSTAND IS WHY SHOULD JOHNNY STAR ESCAPE WHEN HE KNEW A PARDON WAS IN THE WORKS? WHY, MY IMPERSONATOR EVEN HAD THE PARDON...

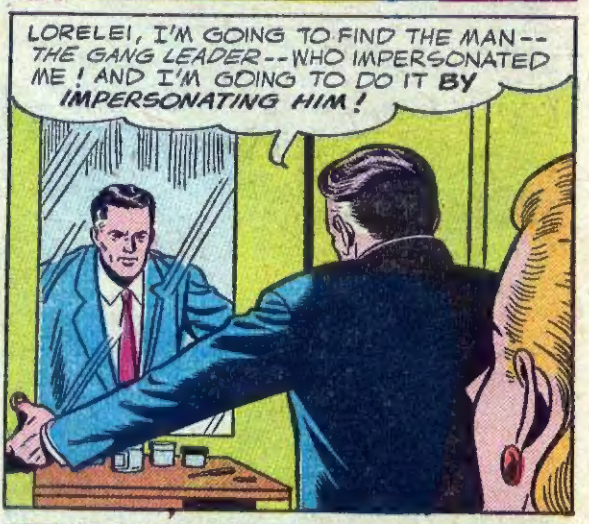
THE FACT REMAINS THAT STAR BROKE OUT OF PRISON--WHATEVER THE REASON!
I JUST CAN'T BELIEVE HE'D BETRAY ALL OF US WHO TRIED TO HELP HIM IN THE PAST, LIEUTENANT! HE HAD NOTHING TO GAIN!

AT THAT VERY MOMENT, AT THE DIAMONY JEWELRY COMPANY...
POLICE? I WANT TO REPORT A ROBBERY--THE DIAMONY JEWELRY COMPANY--HALF AN HOUR AGO...

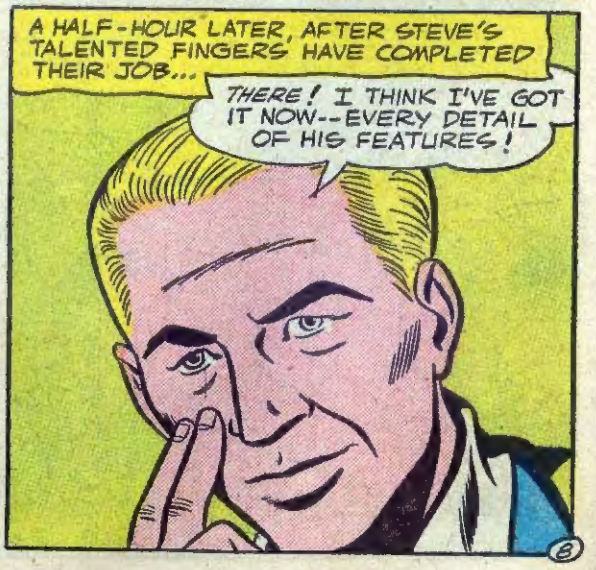
SHORTLY, WHEN STEVE AND LIEUTENANT GREGGORY ARRIVE ON THE SCENE ...
RIGHT AFTER JOHNNY STAR MAKES HIS ESCAPE--THIS SAFE GETS CRACKED! LOOKS PRETTY CLEAR...
BUT, LIEUTENANT--WHY SHOULD STAR HAVE OPENED THIS SMALL SAFE? MR. FOLWELL SAYS...

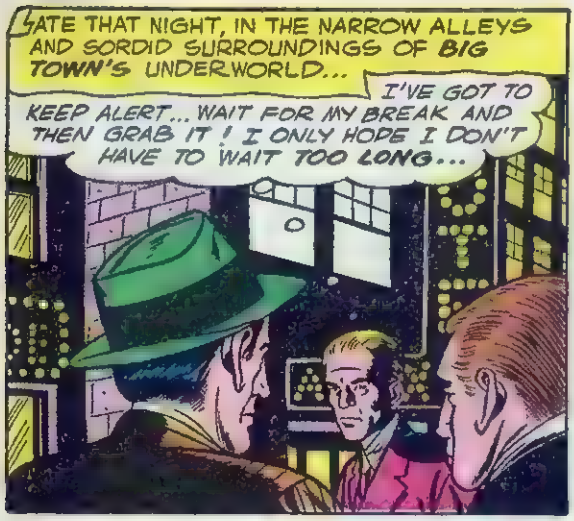
...THAT NO ONE BUT HE AND HIS VICE-PRESIDENT KNEW THAT THE JEWELS HAD BEEN TRANSFERRED FROM THE BIG NEW SAFE THIS AFTERNOON!
IT IS STRANGE, STEVE--STAR DIDN'T EVEN TOUCH THE BIG SAFE!

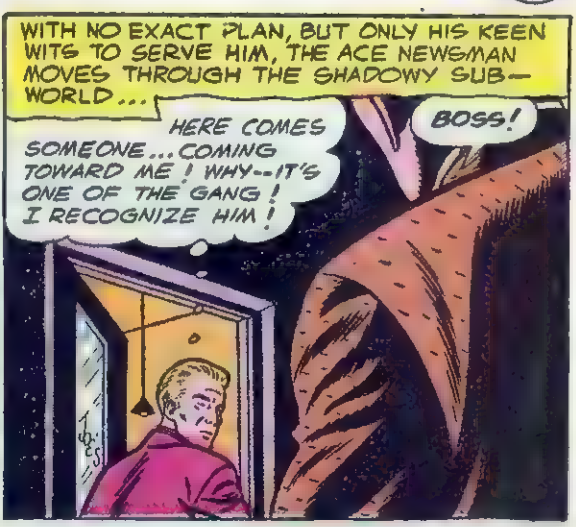
LATER, AT THE ILLUSTRATED PRESS...
EVERY NEWSPAPER IN TOWN IS CONVICTING JOHNNY WITHOUT A TRIAL! I STILL THINK HE IS INNOCENT, LORELEI--AND I'M GOING TO PROVE IT!
BUT, STEVE--HOW? WHAT CAN YOU DO?

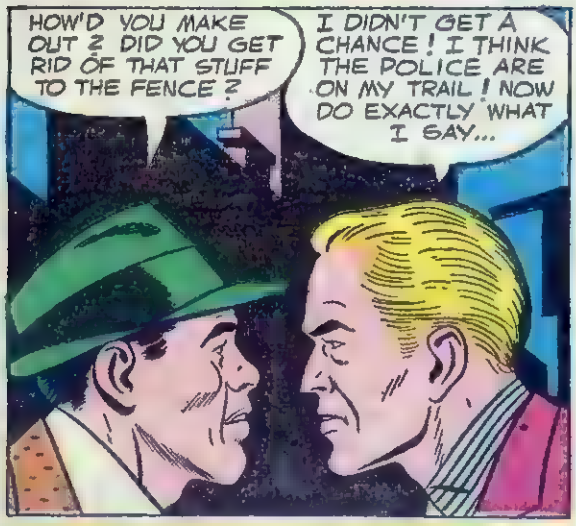

LORELEI, I'M GOING TO FIND THE MAN--THE GANG LEADER--WHO IMPERSONATED ME! AND I'M GOING TO DO IT BY IMPERSONATING HIM!

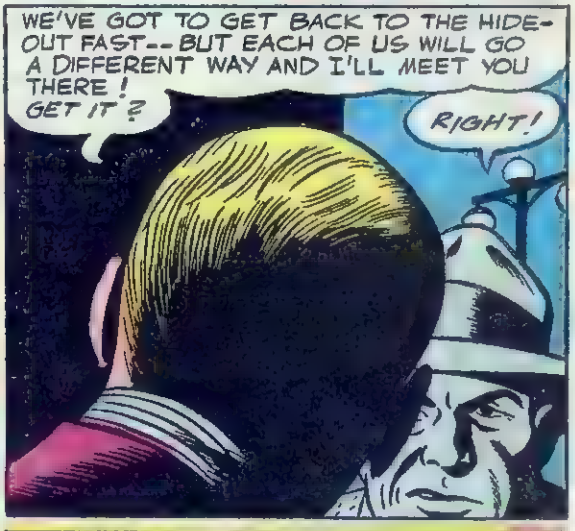
I ADMIT IT'S A LONG SHOT AND I'VE ONLY GOT MY MEMORY TO WORK FROM--BUT IT'S MY ONLY CHANCE! IF THAT GANG LEADER COULD ALTER HIS FEATURES TO MAKE THEM LOOK LIKE MINE--I CAN DO THE SAME TO HIM!

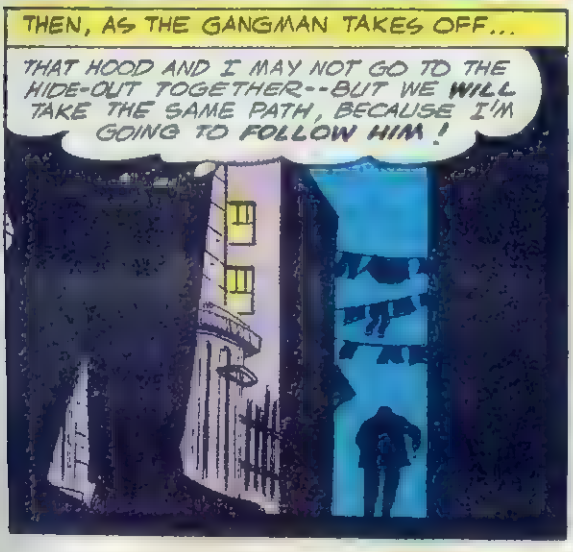

A HALF-HOUR LATER, AFTER STEVE'S TALENTED FINGERS HAVE COMPLETED THEIR JOB...
THERE! I THINK I'VE GOT IT NOW--EVERY DETAIL OF HIS FEATURES!

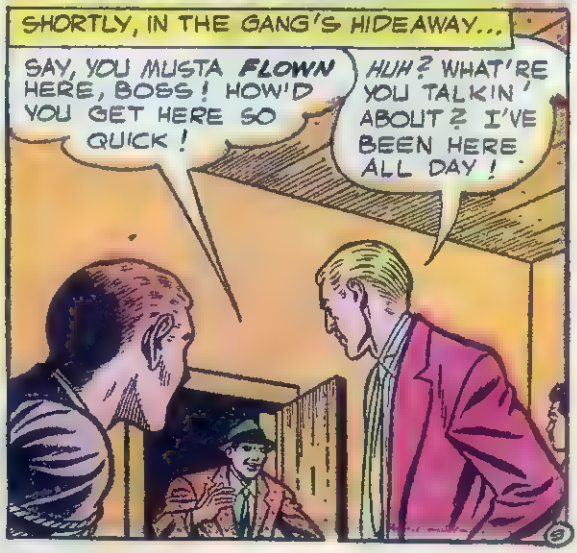

LATE THAT NIGHT, IN THE NARROW ALLEYS AND SORDID SURROUNDINGS OF BIG TOWN'S UNDERWORLD...
I'VE GOT TO KEEP ALERT... WAIT FOR MY BREAK AND THEN GRAB IT! I ONLY HOPE I DON'T HAVE TO WAIT TOO LONG...


WITH NO EXACT PLAN, BUT ONLY HIS KEEN WITS TO SERVE HIM, THE ACE NEWSMAN MOVES THROUGH THE SHADOWY SUB-WORLD...
HERE COMES SOMEONE... COMING TOWARD ME! WHY--IT'S ONE OF THE GANG! I RECOGNIZE HIM!
BOSS!

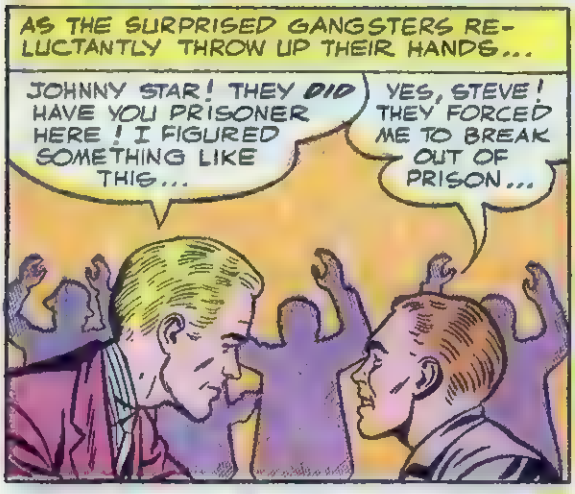

HOW'D YOU MAKE OUT? DID YOU GET RID OF THAT STUFF TO THE FENCE?
I DIDN'T GET A CHANCE! I THINK THE POLICE ARE ON MY TRAIL! NOW DO EXACTLY WHAT I SAY...

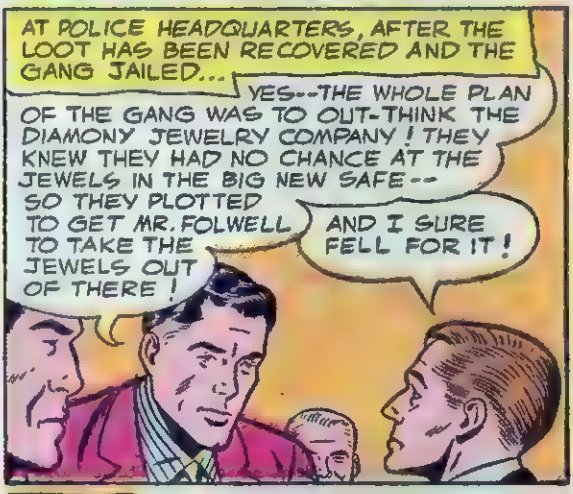

WE'VE GOT TO GET BACK TO THE HIDE-OUT FAST--BUT EACH OF US WILL GO A DIFFERENT WAY AND I'LL MEET YOU THERE! GET IT?
RIGHT!

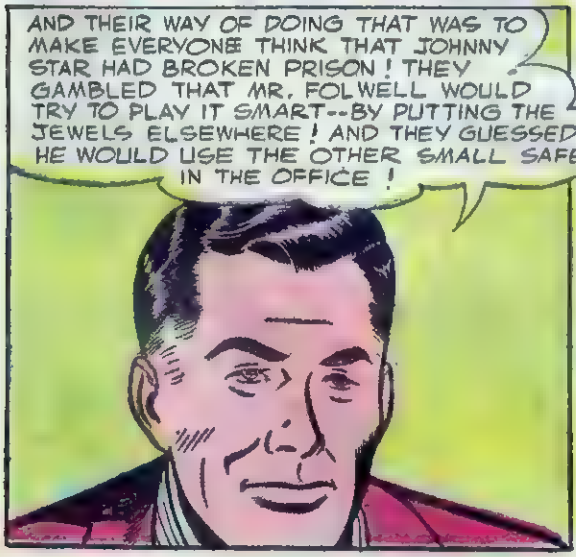

THEN, AS THE GANGMAN TAKES OFF...
THAT HOOD AND I MAY NOT GO TO THE HIDE-OUT TOGETHER--BUT WE WILL TAKE THE SAME PATH, BECAUSE I'M GOING TO FOLLOW HIM!

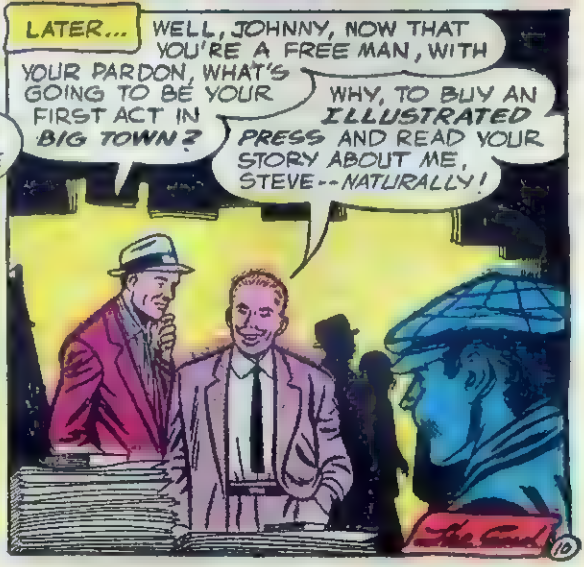

SHORTLY, IN THE GANG'S HIDEAWAY...
SAY, YOU MUSTA FLOWN HERE, BOSS! HOW'D YOU GET HERE SO QUICK!
HUH? WHAT'RE YOU TALKIN' ABOUT? I'VE BEEN HERE ALL DAY!

THE NEXT MOMENT...
GRAB THEM, OFFICERS! THE WHOLE GANG IS IN THERE!
THE POLICE!
IT WAS A DARING AND DANGEROUS PLAN, STEVE--BUT IT WORKED!


AS THE SURPRISED GANGSTERS RELUCTANTLY THROW UP THEIR HANDS...
JOHNNY STAR! THEY DID HAVE YOU PRISONER HERE! I FIGURED SOMETHING LIKE THIS...
YES, STEVE! THEY FORCED ME TO BREAK OUT OF PRISON...


AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS, AFTER THE LOOT HAS BEEN RECOVERED AND THE GANG JAILED...
YES--THE WHOLE PLAN OF THE GANG WAS TO OUT-THINK THE DIAMONY JEWELRY COMPANY! THEY KNEW THEY HAD NO CHANCE AT THE JEWELS IN THE BIG NEW SAFE--SO THEY PLOTTED TO GET MR. FOLWELL TO TAKE THE JEWELS OUT OF THERE!
AND I SURE FELL FOR IT!


AND THEIR WAY OF DOING THAT WAS TO MAKE EVERYONE THINK THAT JOHNNY STAR HAD BROKEN PRISON! THEY GAMBLED THAT MR. FOLWELL WOULD TRY TO PLAY IT SMART--BY PUTTING THE JEWELS ELSEWHERE! AND THEY GUESSED HE WOULD USE THE OTHER SMALL SAFE IN THE OFFICE!


LATER...
WELL, JOHNNY, NOW THAT YOU'RE A FREE MAN, WITH YOUR PARDON, WHAT'S GOING TO BE YOUR FIRST ACT IN BIG TOWN?
WHY, TO BUY AN ILLUSTRATED PRESS AND READ YOUR STORY ABOUT ME, STEVE--NATURALLY!
The End

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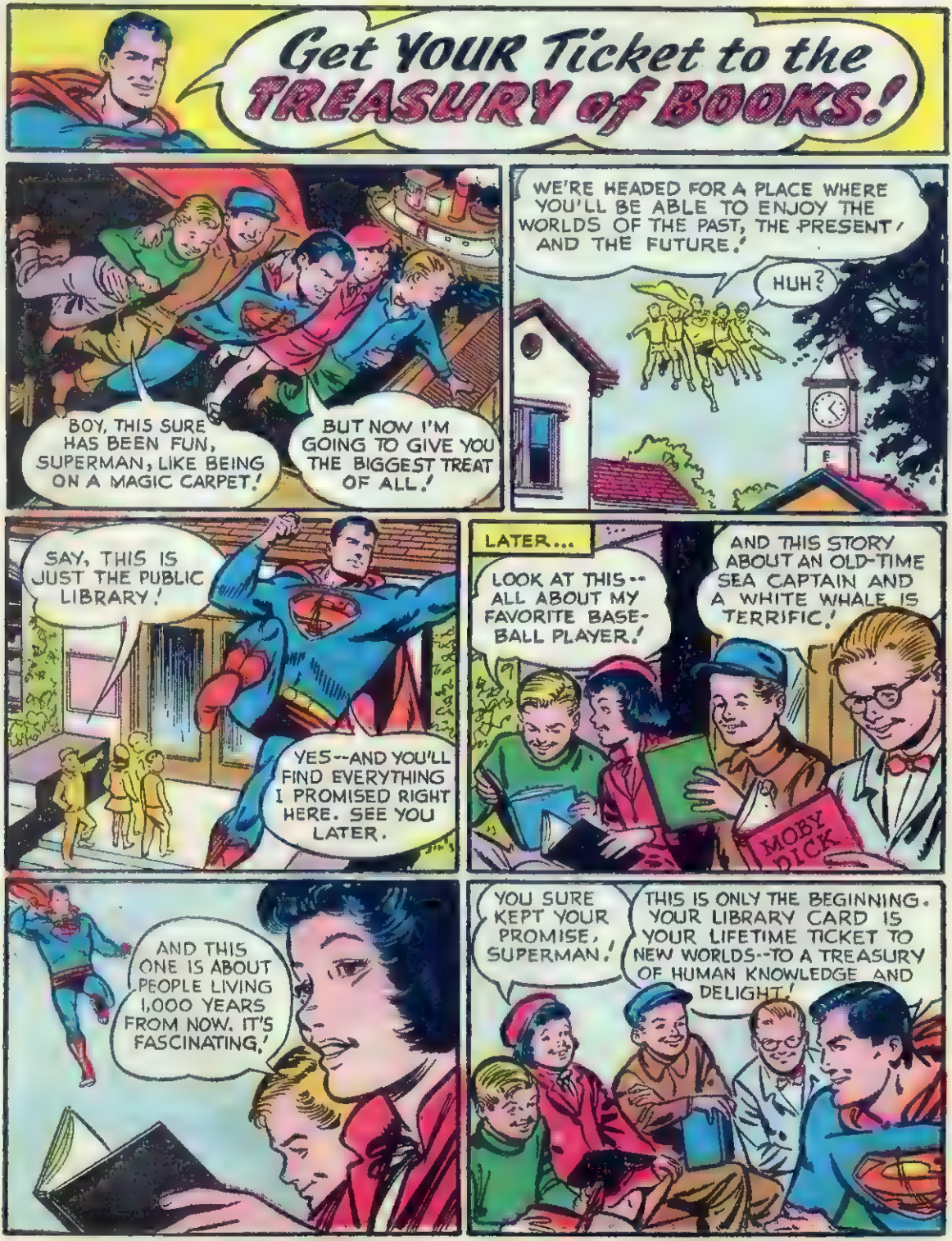

Get YOUR Ticket to the TREASURY of BOOKS!
BOY, THIS SURE HAS BEEN FUN, SUPERMAN, LIKE BEING ON A MAGIC CARPET!
BUT NOW I'M GOING TO GIVE YOU THE BIGGEST TREAT OF ALL!
WE'RE HEADED FOR A PLACE WHERE YOU'LL BE ABLE TO ENJOY THE WORLDS OF THE PAST, THE PRESENT, AND THE FUTURE!
HUH?
SAY, THIS IS JUST THE PUBLIC LIBRARY!
YES--AND YOU'LL FIND EVERYTHING I PROMISED RIGHT HERE. SEE YOU LATER.
LATER...
LOOK AT THIS-- ALL ABOUT MY FAVORITE BASE-BALL PLAYER!
AND THIS STORY ABOUT AN OLD-TIME SEA CAPTAIN AND A WHITE WHALE IS TERRIFIC!
MOBY DICK
AND THIS ONE IS ABOUT PEOPLE LIVING 1,000 YEARS FROM NOW. IT'S FASCINATING!
YOU SURE KEPT YOUR PROMISE, SUPERMAN!
THIS IS ONLY THE BEGINNING. YOUR LIBRARY CARD IS YOUR LIFETIME TICKET TO NEW WORLDS--TO A TREASURY OF HUMAN KNOWLEDGE AND DELIGHT!

PUBLISHED AS A PUBLIC SERVICE IN COOPERATION WITH THE NATIONAL SOCIAL WELFARE ASSEMBLY, COORDINATING ORGANIZATION FOR NATIONAL HEALTH, WELFARE AND RECREATION AGENCIES OF THE U. S.

BIG TOWN

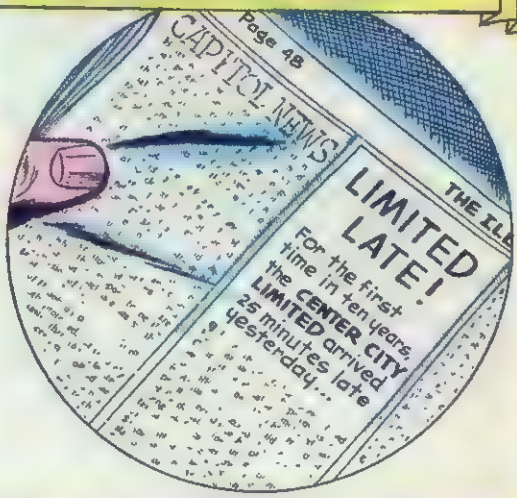
DON MOODY, YOUNG REPORTER FOR ***BIG TOWN'S ILLUSTRATED PRESS***, THOUGHT THAT HE WOULD NEVER HAVE THE LUCK TO RUN INTO A BIG FRONT-PAGE STORY! ALL THE ASSIGNMENTS HE WORKED ON SEEMED TO WIND UP AS SMALL ITEMS ON THE BACK PAGE! BUT THAT WAS BEFORE EDITOR ***STEVE WILSON*** TOOK THE YOUTH IN HAND AND POINTED OUT TO HIM THAT BIG STORIES ARE OFTEN THE RESULT OF HARD WORK--AND DON'T COME FLOATING INTO THE EDITORIAL OFFICE ON THIN AIR!...

THE SECRET OF THE ALLIGATOR SUITCASE!

AS THE CENTER CITY LIMITED PULLS INTO BIG TOWN TERMINAL--25 MINUTES BEHIND SCHEDULE...

CENTER CITY LIMITED HAS NOW ARRIVED ON TRACK 17!

THE NEXT MORNING, ON THE LAST PAGE OF THE ILLUSTRATED PRESS...


Page 48
CAPITOL NEWS
LIMITED LATE!
For the first time in ten years, the CENTER CITY LIMITED arrived 25 minutes late yesterday...

MEANWHILE, IN STEVE WILSON'S OFFICE, A YOUNG REPORTER POURS OUT A PROBLEM...

MR. WILSON, YOU SEND ALL OF US REPORTERS OUT ON ASSIGNMENTS, AND THE VETERANS ALWAYS SEEM TO WIND UP WITH GOOD STORIES! BUT I CAN'T FIGURE OUT HOW THEY GET THEM! THE STORIES I GO AFTER DON'T SEEM TO LEAD ANYWHERE...

MAYBE THAT'S BECAUSE YOU DON'T LOOK HARD ENOUGH, DON...

RESPECTFULLY, DON MOODY LISTENS TO THE WORDS OF HIS EDITOR...

DON, VERY FEW REPORTERS ARE PRESENTED WITH A READY-MADE BIG STORY--LIKE THE ONE ABOUT THE $250,000 BANK ROBBERY IN CENTER CITY YESTERDAY! MOST OFTEN A REPORTER HAS TO START WITH SOMETHING SMALL--AND DIG!

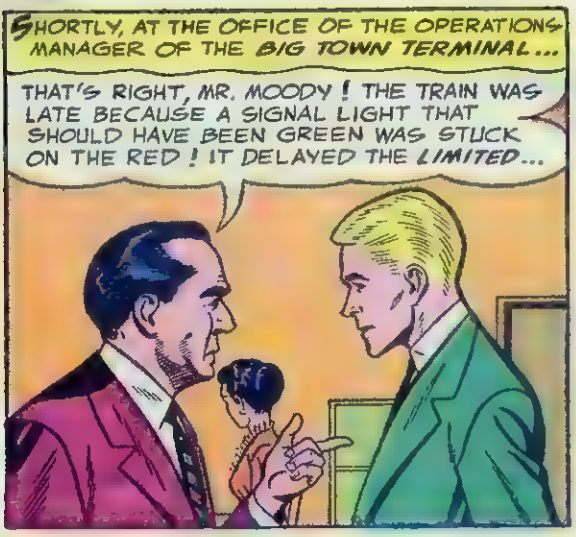
FOR EXAMPLE, TAKE THIS LITTLE ITEM FROM OUR OWN BACK PAGE..." THE CENTER CITY LIMITED ARRIVED 25 MINUTES LATER YESTERDAY"... NOW, TELL ME, SON, DID IT OCCUR TO YOU TO WONDER WHY THE TRAIN WAS LATE?

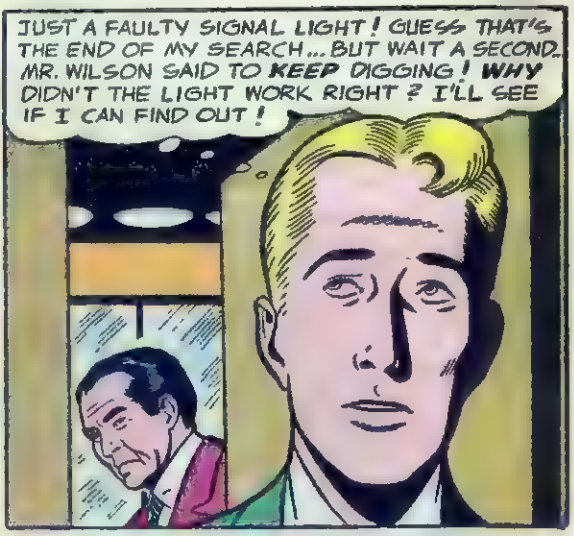
GOSH, NO, MR. WILSON!

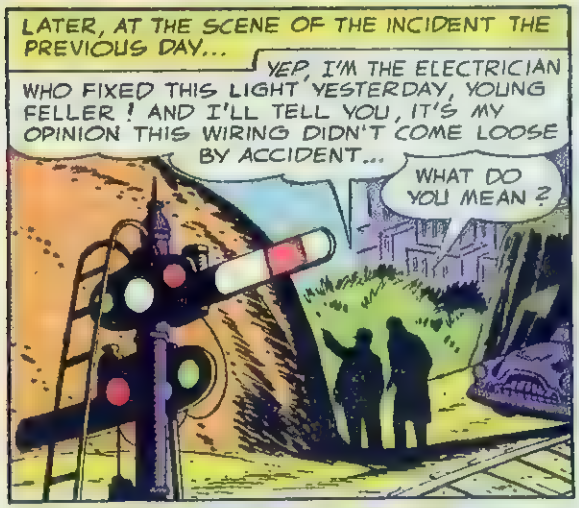
AS THE EDITOR EMPHASIZES HIS POINT ABOUT DIGGING INTO A STORY AND CONTINUING TO DIG...

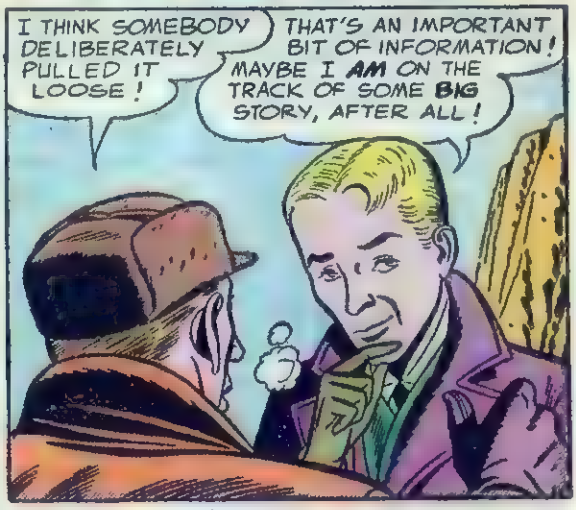
TO PROVE TO YOU WHAT I SAY, DON, SUPPOSE YOU TAKE THIS LITTLE ITEM FOR YOUR NEXT ASSIGNMENT! YOUR JOB IS TO GET A STORY OUT OF IT--A GOOD STORY!

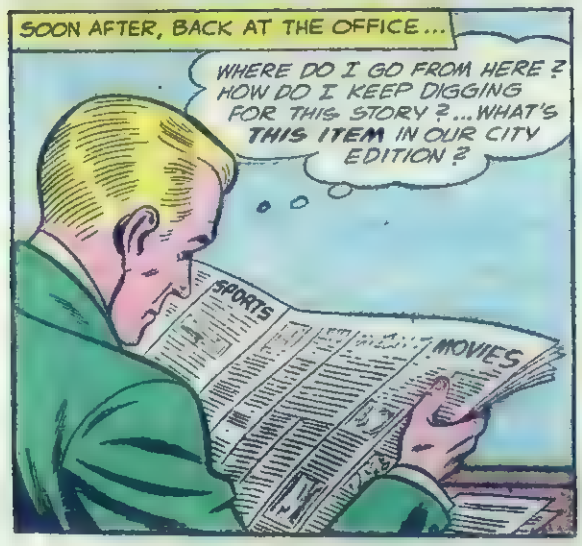
I'LL GET RIGHT ON IT, MR. WILSON! THANKS FOR TRYING TO HELP ME!


SHORTLY, AT THE OFFICE OF THE OPERATIONS MANAGER OF THE BIG TOWN TERMINAL...
THAT'S RIGHT, MR. MOODY! THE TRAIN WAS LATE BECAUSE A SIGNAL LIGHT THAT SHOULD HAVE BEEN GREEN WAS STUCK ON THE RED! IT DELAYED THE LIMITED...


JUST A FAULTY SIGNAL LIGHT! GUESS THAT'S THE END OF MY SEARCH... BUT WAIT A SECOND. MR. WILSON SAID TO KEEP DIGGING! WHY DIDN'T THE LIGHT WORK RIGHT? I'LL SEE IF I CAN FIND OUT!


LATER, AT THE SCENE OF THE INCIDENT THE PREVIOUS DAY...
YEP, I'M THE ELECTRICIAN WHO FIXED THIS LIGHT YESTERDAY, YOUNG FELLER! AND I'LL TELL YOU, IT'S MY OPINION THIS WIRING DIDN'T COME LOOSE BY ACCIDENT...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?


I THINK SOMEBODY DELIBERATELY PULLED IT LOOSE!
THAT'S AN IMPORTANT BIT OF INFORMATION! MAYBE I AM ON THE TRACK OF SOME BIG STORY, AFTER ALL!


SOON AFTER, BACK AT THE OFFICE...
WHERE DO I GO FROM HERE? HOW DO I KEEP DIGGING FOR THIS STORY?... WHAT'S THIS ITEM IN OUR CITY EDITION?
SPORTS
MOVIES

SALE
LOST and FOUND
REWARD will be paid to anyone who brings back an ALLIGATOR SUITCASE taken from the CENTER CITY LIMITED yesterday by mistake! Contact P. WEHLER. TERMINAL HOTEL

THERE'S JUST A CHANCE THAT THIS ITEM ABOUT THE LOST ALLIGATOR SUITCASE HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH THE LIMITED BEING LATE ! A SLIM CHANCE, BUT I CAN'T AFFORD TO MISS ANY BETS !
ILLUSTRATED PRESS
SHORTLY...
YES, I NOTICED MR. WEHLER GO UP TO HIS ROOM AN HOUR AGO ! ROOM 92! ...
THANK YOU !
ON THE NINTH FLOOR, A FEW MINUTES LATER...
THAT'S ODD! THE DESK CLERK SAID HE MUST BE UP HERE ! BUT WHY DOESN'T HE ANSWER? LET ME SEE ... IS THIS DOOR OPEN ?
RAP-RAP-
AS THE VENTURESOME REPORTER PUSHES OPEN THE DOOR...
GOOD GOSH ! TH-THIS MAN IS DEAD ! I'VE GOT TO CALL THE CLERK--GET THE POLICE !
SOON AFTER...
POLICE ! I WANT TO REPORT A MURDER --
WEHLER'S ALLIGATOR SUITCASE FITS THE DESCRIPTION OF THE ONE IN THAT LOST-AND-FOUND AD--BUT IT'S EMPTY ! I WONDER ...
MAYBE THERE'S ANOTHER MAN WITH AN ALLIGATOR SUITCASE ... MAYBE HIS DEATH HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH THIS SUITCASE MIX-UP ! I'VE GOT TO KEEP DIGGING !

AFTER THE POLICE HAVE ARRIVED AND TAKEN OVER...
THEN YOU THINK THAT THE KILLER MIGHT HAVE BEEN SOMEONE REGISTERED IN THIS HOTEL ?
IT'S POSSIBLE ! TELL ME--DID ANYONE CHECK OUT IN THE LAST HALF-HOUR OR SO ?
WHY, YES, THERE WAS A MR. J. SMITH ...
J. SMITH ! THAT SOUNDS PHONY TO BEGIN WITH ! LISTEN--DO YOU REMEMBER--WAS HE CARRYING AN ALLIGATOR SUITCASE LIKE THIS ONE ?
WHY, YES ! HE WAS CARRYING A CASE JUST LIKE THAT !
WHEEE! THIS NEWS TRAIL IS GETTING HOT! HOW LONG AGO DID HE LEAVE ?
ABOUT A HALF HOUR AGO ! BUT I HAVE NO IDEA WHERE HE WENT ! HE CHECKED OUT SUDDENLY AND LEFT NO FORWARDING ADDRESS ! I DIDN'T EVEN SEE IF HE TOOK A CAB ...
TOWN TERMINAL
TERMINAL HOTEL
BOOKS
BOOKS
ROYALE
THEN, AS THE ALERT MIND OF THE YOUNG NEWS MAN COMES UP WITH AN IDEA ...
MAYBE HE MADE SOME PHONE CALLS ! THEY WOULD BE PUT DOWN ON THE SWITCHBOARD OPERATOR'S PAD, WOULDN'T THEY ?
THAT'S RIGHT ! HERE'S THE PAD..
MOMENTS LATER...
HERE IT IS ! HE MADE A CALL JUST BEFORE HE LEFT--TO BIG TOWN AIRPORT !
THAT'S IT ! THE AIRPORT ! YOU NOTIFY THE POLICE--I'M ON MY WAY ! THERE'S NOT A SECOND TO LOSE !

MEANWHILE, IN A LATE EDITION OF THE *ILLUSTRATED PRESS*...

THE I

Page 3

MAN FOUND DEAD IN HOTEL ROOM!

A man identified as P. Wehler was found dead in his room at the HOTEL TERMINAL this afternoon. The body was discovered by ILLUSTRATED PRESS REPORTER Don Moody...

SHORTLY, AT *BIG TOWN AIRPORT*...

EVEN IF HE'S HERE, HOW CAN I FIND HIM? I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT HE LOOKS LIKE...AND ALL THESE PEOPLE...

FLIGHT 19 TO CENTER CITY IS NOW READY...

19

THEN, SUDDENLY...

PASSENGERS FOR CENTER CITY PLEASE BOARD THE PLANE...

THAT MAN--HE'S CARRYING AN ALLIGATOR SUITCASE JUST LIKE THE ONE BACK AT THE HOTEL!

WITHOUT HESITATION, DON BOLTS INTO ACTION...

ER--EXCUSE ME, SIR! I WANT TO TALK TO YOU!

HUH? WHO ARE YOU?

I'M A REPORTER FROM THE *ILLUSTRATED PRESS*! I WANT TO ASK YOU ABOUT THAT ALLIGATOR SUITCASE--

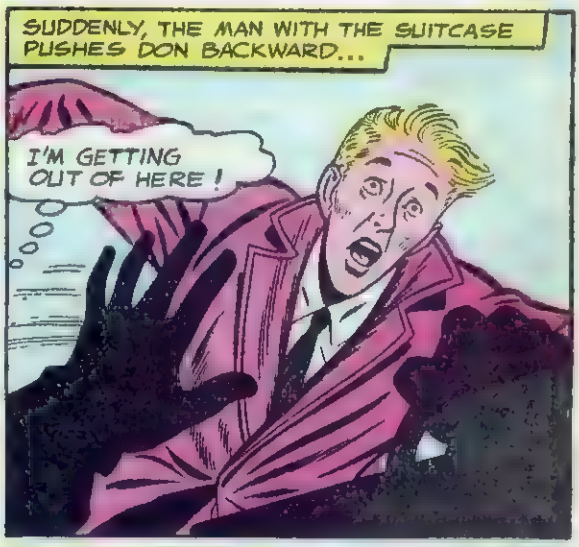
IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS! BEAT IT--I'VE GOT TO CATCH A PLANE!

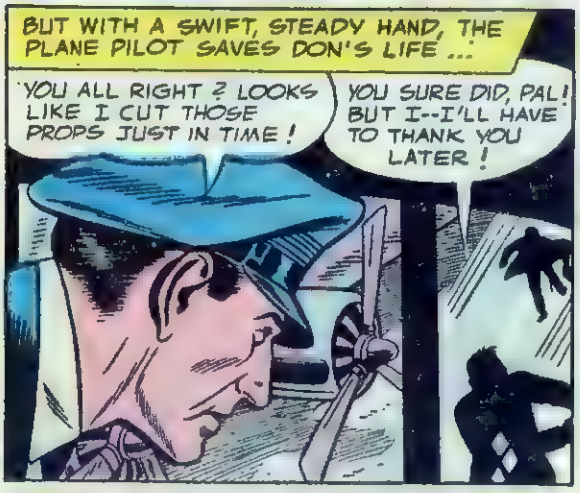
ON IMPULSE, THE YOUNG NEWSHAWK PLUNGES FORWARD...

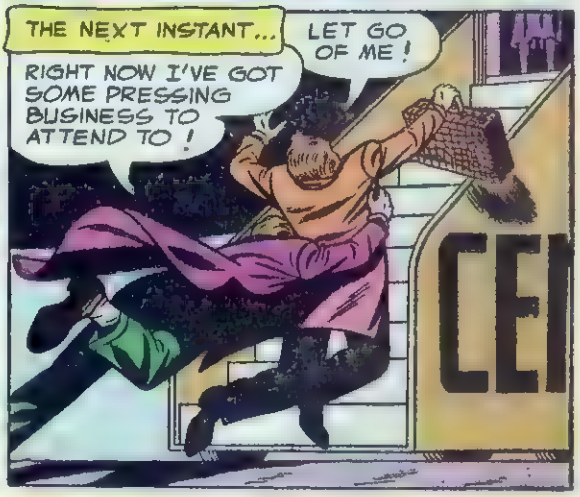
WHAT HARM IS THERE IN TELLING ME WHAT'S IN THAT SUITCASE--UNLESS YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO HIDE--

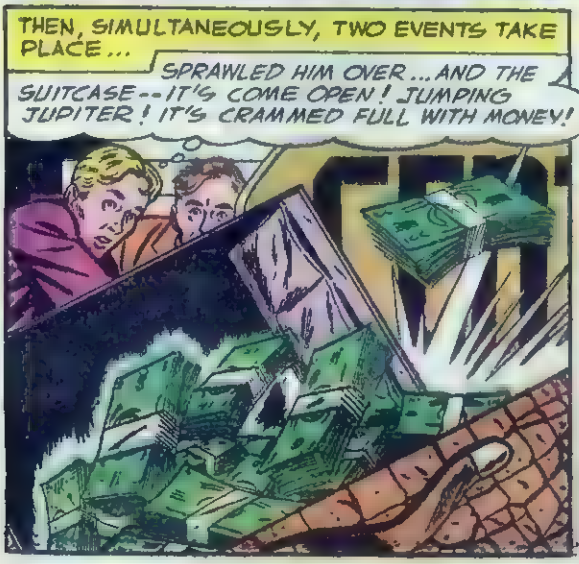
YOU'LL NEVER FIND OUT--

THAT PLANE IS TAXIING OVER... WE'RE PRETTY CLOSE TO THOSE PROPELLERS!

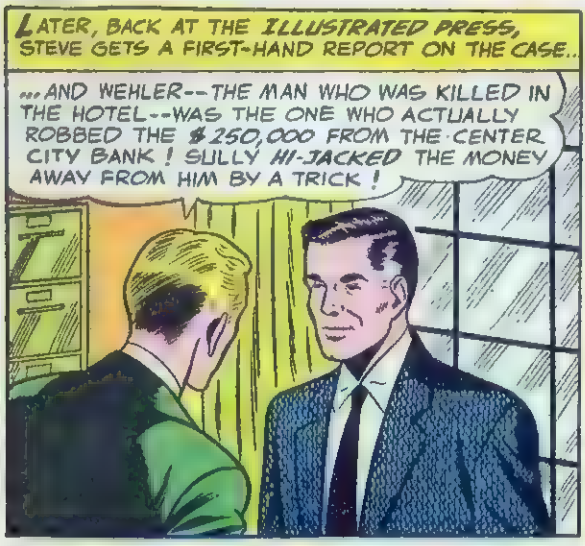

SUDDENLY, THE MAN WITH THE SUITCASE PUSHES DON BACKWARD...
I'M GETTING OUT OF HERE!

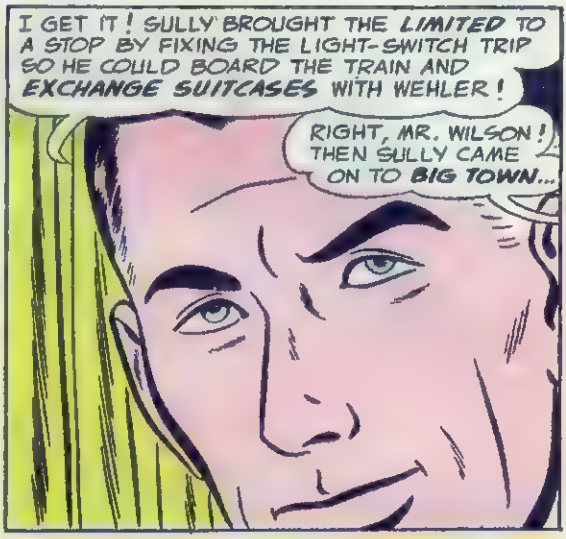

BUT WITH A SWIFT, STEADY HAND, THE PLANE PILOT SAVES DON'S LIFE ...
YOU ALL RIGHT? LOOKS LIKE I CUT THOSE PROPS JUST IN TIME!
YOU SURE DID, PAL! BUT I--I'LL HAVE TO THANK YOU LATER!

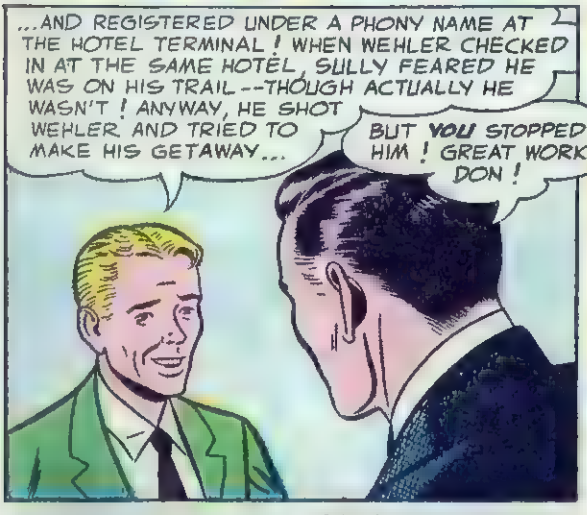

THE NEXT INSTANT...
LET GO OF ME!
RIGHT NOW I'VE GOT SOME PRESSING BUSINESS TO ATTEND TO!

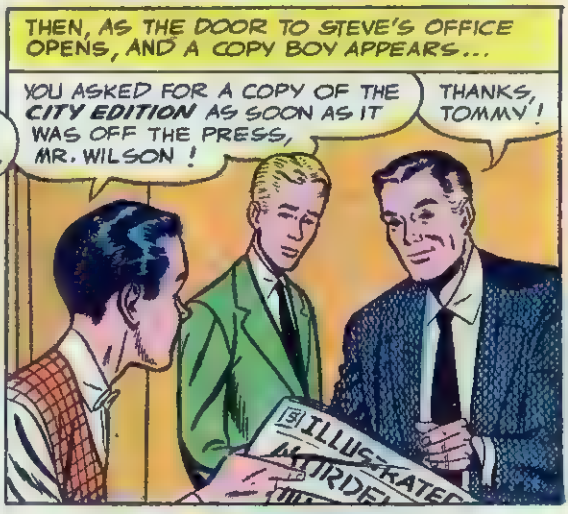

THEN, SIMULTANEOUSLY, TWO EVENTS TAKE PLACE...
SPRAWLED HIM OVER... AND THE SUITCASE--IT'S COME OPEN! JUMPING JUPITER! IT'S CRAMMED FULL WITH MONEY!

SHORTLY AFTER, WHEN THE POLICE ARRIVE ...
YOU'VE CAUGHT "SHADY JIM" SULLY, YOUNG FELLOW! AND YOU'VE RECOVERED THE $250,000 THAT WAS STOLEN THE OTHER DAY FROM THE CENTER CITY BANK!
WOW! WHAT A STORY! I'VE GOT TO GET TO A TELEPHONE!


LATER, BACK AT THE ILLUSTRATED PRESS, STEVE GETS A FIRST-HAND REPORT ON THE CASE..
...AND WEHLER--THE MAN WHO WAS KILLED IN THE HOTEL--WAS THE ONE WHO ACTUALLY ROBBED THE $250,000 FROM THE CENTER CITY BANK ! SULLY HI-JACKED THE MONEY AWAY FROM HIM BY A TRICK !


I GET IT ! SULLY BROUGHT THE LIMITED TO A STOP BY FIXING THE LIGHT-SWITCH TRIP SO HE COULD BOARD THE TRAIN AND EXCHANGE SUITCASES WITH WEHLER !
RIGHT, MR. WILSON ! THEN SULLY CAME ON TO BIG TOWN...


...AND REGISTERED UNDER A PHONY NAME AT THE HOTEL TERMINAL ! WHEN WEHLER CHECKED IN AT THE SAME HOTEL, SULLY FEARED HE WAS ON HIS TRAIL--THOUGH ACTUALLY HE WASN'T ! ANYWAY, HE SHOT WEHLER AND TRIED TO MAKE HIS GETAWAY...
BUT YOU STOPPED HIM ! GREAT WORK, DON !


THEN, AS THE DOOR TO STEVE'S OFFICE OPENS, AND A COPY BOY APPEARS...
YOU ASKED FOR A COPY OF THE CITY EDITION AS SOON AS IT WAS OFF THE PRESS, MR. WILSON !
THANKS, TOMMY !

DON, DO YOU NOW SEE HOW A STORY GROWS-- FROM A LITTLE ITEM ON THE BACK PAGE TO A FRONT PAGE HEADLINE--BY DIGGING FOR THE FACTS ?
MR. WILSON, I'LL NEVER FORGET THIS LESSON !

ILLUSTRATED PRESS
MURDER AND BANK ROBBERY SOLVED!
SECOND MURDER ATTEMPT AT AIRPORT CLIMAXES EXCITING CHASE AFTER HIJACKER OF BANK LOOT!
story by DON MOODY
The End

FOLLOW THIS TRACK

TO THE MOST EXCITING TRAILS OF DANGER AND SUSPENSE EVER BEFORE OPENED TO YOU!

EVERY TRAIL IN "KINGS of the WILD" EXPLODES IN THE LIFETIME OF ADVENTURE ONLY "SHOWCASE" CAN OFFER!

SHOWCASE
MAY-JUNE NO. 1
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
Presenting
KINGS of the WILD
THIS BEAR HAD NEVER SET FOOT OUTSIDE OF A ZOO UNTIL...
"The RUNAWAY BEAR!"
THE BOY AND DOG THE WEST OUTLAWED...
"OUTCAST HEROES!"
AND FEATURING THE INDIAN BOY WHO HAD AN EAGLE FOR A GUARDIAN...
"RIDER of the WINDS!"

"KINGS of the WILD"

IS THE BOOK YOU HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR—IF YOU WANT TO SEE ANOTHER ONE LIKE IT—WRITE TO THE ONLY MAGAZINE WHOSE EVERY ISSUE IS A BRAND NEW WORLD OF SURPRISE—"SHOWCASE No. 2"!

SUPERMAN-DC

PROUDLY PRESENTS THE 2ND IN A SERIES OF STARTLING INNOVATIONS IN COMICS: SHOWCASE! EACH ISSUE WILL BE AN EXCLUSIVE SHOWCASE SURPRISE, COMPRISED OF THE THRILLING ADVENTURES *you* WANTED!

SUPERMAN DC NATIONAL COMICS

LOOK FOR SHOWCASE *at* YOUR NEWSSTAND!

ADVERTISEMENT

NEW ALUMINUM PACKAGE

keeps GOOD LUCK Fresher and Better Tasting

than any other margarine!

BUY IT we know you'll agree! GOOD LUCK margarine *stays fresher* and *tastes better* than any other margarine because GOOD LUCK is the *only* margarine double wrapped and sealed in Reynolds Wrap Aluminum foil.

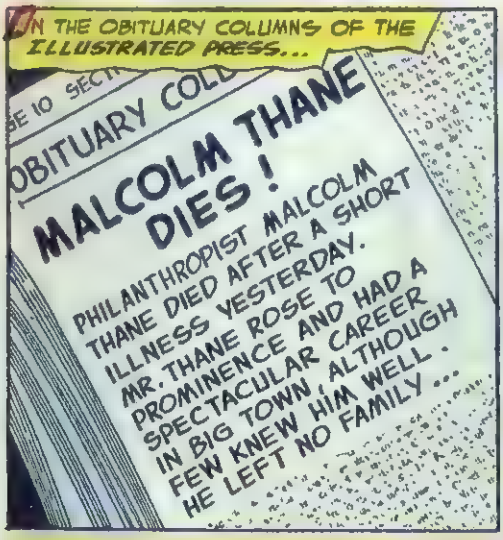
First we wrap each quarter pound of GOOD LUCK in pure aluminum. Next we place the four quarters in a waxed carton. *Then we wrap the carton in an outer wrap of shiny aluminum foil* and seal it tight. This keeps GOOD LUCK fresher and better tasting than any other margarine.

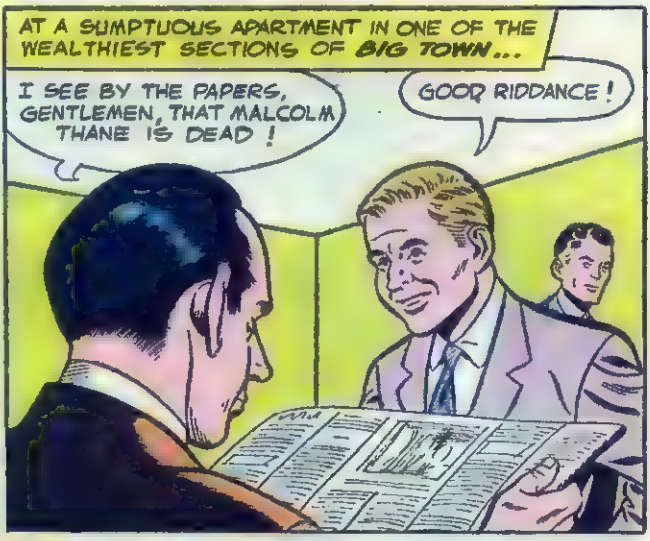
We guarantee that you'll like GOOD LUCK in its new aluminum package better than any other spread you've ever tasted or we'll refund your money.

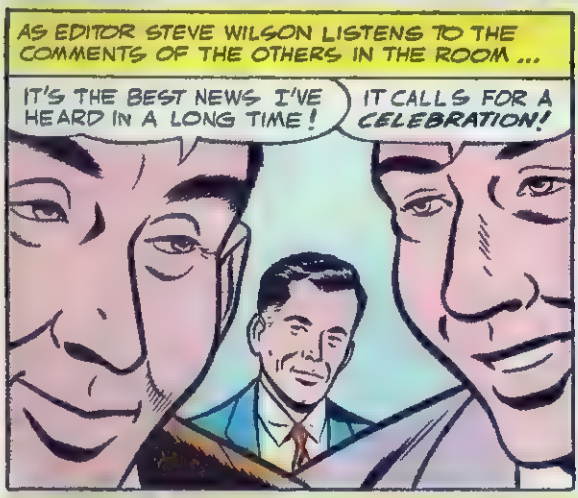
If you don't agree, just drop a line to Lever Brothers Company, 390 Park Avenue, New York 22, N.Y., enclosing the guarantee panel from the GOOD LUCK package. We'll send you every penny you paid.

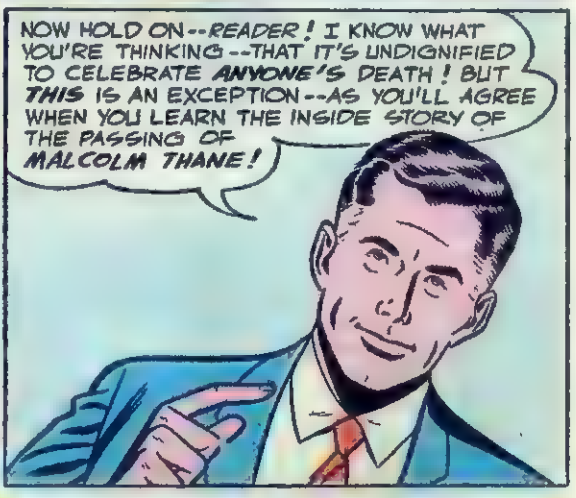
IT WAS THE MAGIC NAME OF **MALCOLM THANE** THAT LURED STEVE WILSON OUT OF THE EDITORIAL CONFINES OF HIS NEWSPAPER OFFICE AND INTO AN INVESTIGATION THAT LED TO A MYSTIFYING ROBBERY IN A ***BIG TOWN*** SKYSCRAPER ! BUT ASTONISHING AS THE THEFT WAS, IT WAS ONLY THE BEGINNING OF A MYSTERIOUS MAZE THAT ENTRAPPED THE NEWSMAN IN HIS SEARCH FOR ...

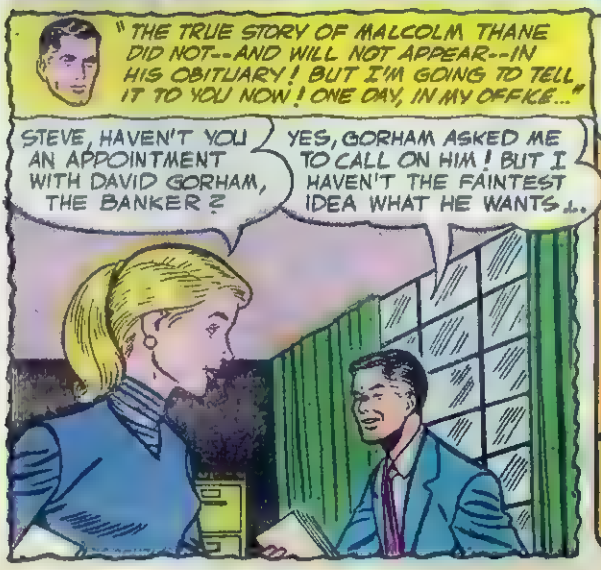
the UNKNOWN MILLIONAIRE OF BIG TOWN!

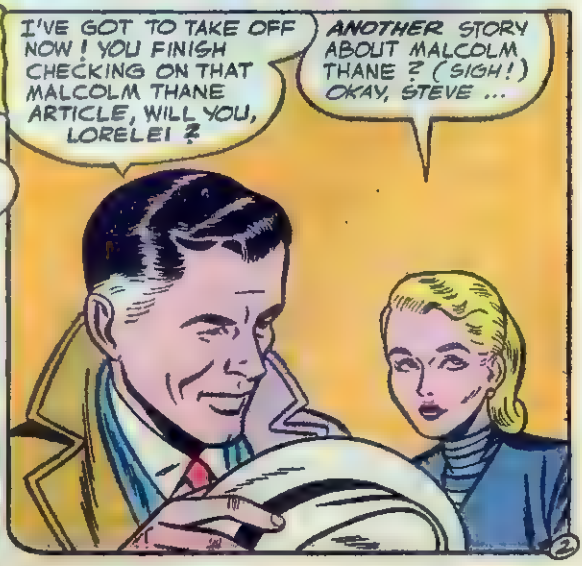

IN THE OBITUARY COLUMNS OF THE ILLUSTRATED PRESS...
OBITUARY COLD
MALCOLM THANE DIES!
PHILANTHROPIST MALCOLM THANE DIED AFTER A SHORT ILLNESS YESTERDAY. MR. THANE ROSE TO PROMINENCE AND HAD A SPECTACULAR CAREER IN BIG TOWN, ALTHOUGH FEW KNEW HIM WELL. HE LEFT NO FAMILY...

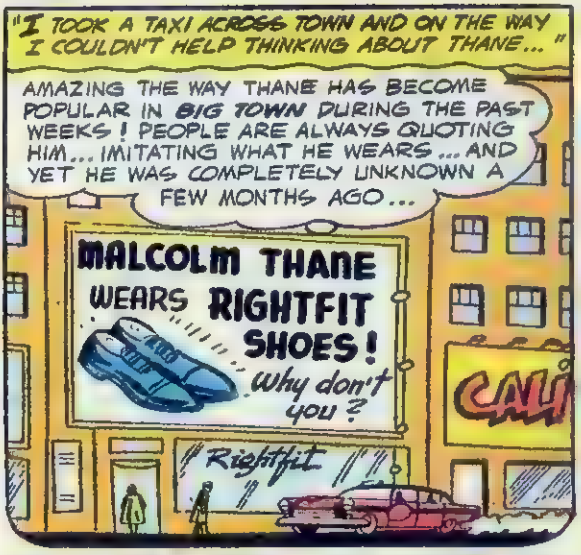

AT A SUMPTUOUS APARTMENT IN ONE OF THE WEALTHIEST SECTIONS OF BIG TOWN...
I SEE BY THE PAPERS, GENTLEMEN, THAT MALCOLM THANE IS DEAD!
GOOD RIDDANCE!

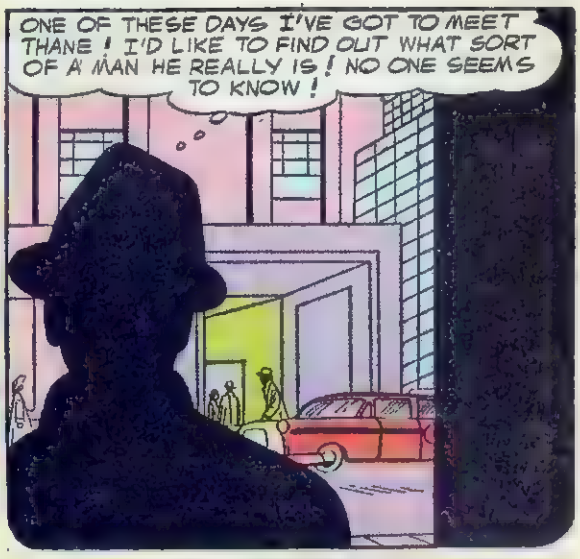

AS EDITOR STEVE WILSON LISTENS TO THE COMMENTS OF THE OTHERS IN THE ROOM...
IT'S THE BEST NEWS I'VE HEARD IN A LONG TIME!
IT CALLS FOR A CELEBRATION!

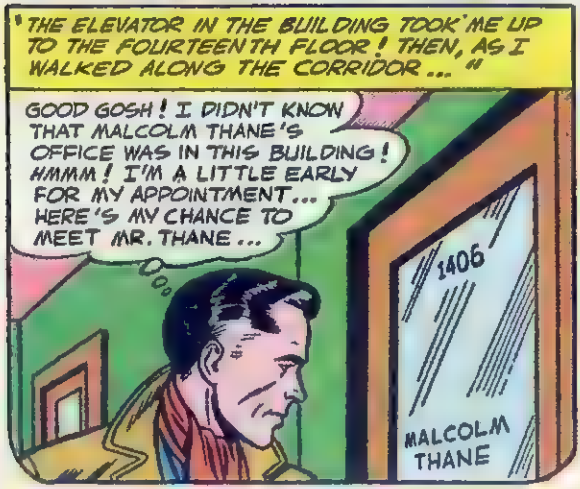

NOW HOLD ON--READER! I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE THINKING--THAT IT'S UNDIGNIFIED TO CELEBRATE ANYONE'S DEATH! BUT THIS IS AN EXCEPTION--AS YOU'LL AGREE WHEN YOU LEARN THE INSIDE STORY OF THE PASSING OF MALCOLM THANE!

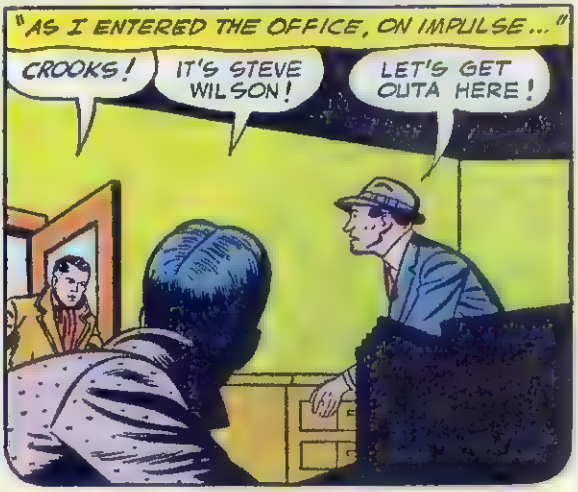

"THE TRUE STORY OF MALCOLM THANE DID NOT--AND WILL NOT APPEAR--IN HIS OBITUARY! BUT I'M GOING TO TELL IT TO YOU NOW! ONE DAY, IN MY OFFICE..."
STEVE, HAVEN'T YOU AN APPOINTMENT WITH DAVID GORHAM, THE BANKER?
YES, GORHAM ASKED ME TO CALL ON HIM! BUT I HAVEN'T THE FAINTEST IDEA WHAT HE WANTS...


I'VE GOT TO TAKE OFF NOW! YOU FINISH CHECKING ON THAT MALCOLM THANE ARTICLE, WILL YOU, LORELEI?
ANOTHER STORY ABOUT MALCOLM THANE? (SIGH!) OKAY, STEVE...


"I TOOK A TAXI ACROSS TOWN AND ON THE WAY I COULDN'T HELP THINKING ABOUT THANE..."
AMAZING THE WAY THANE HAS BECOME POPULAR IN BIG TOWN DURING THE PAST WEEKS! PEOPLE ARE ALWAYS QUOTING HIM... IMITATING WHAT HE WEARS... AND YET HE WAS COMPLETELY UNKNOWN A FEW MONTHS AGO...
MALCOLM THANE WEARS RIGHTFIT SHOES!
Why don't you?
Rightfit
CALI

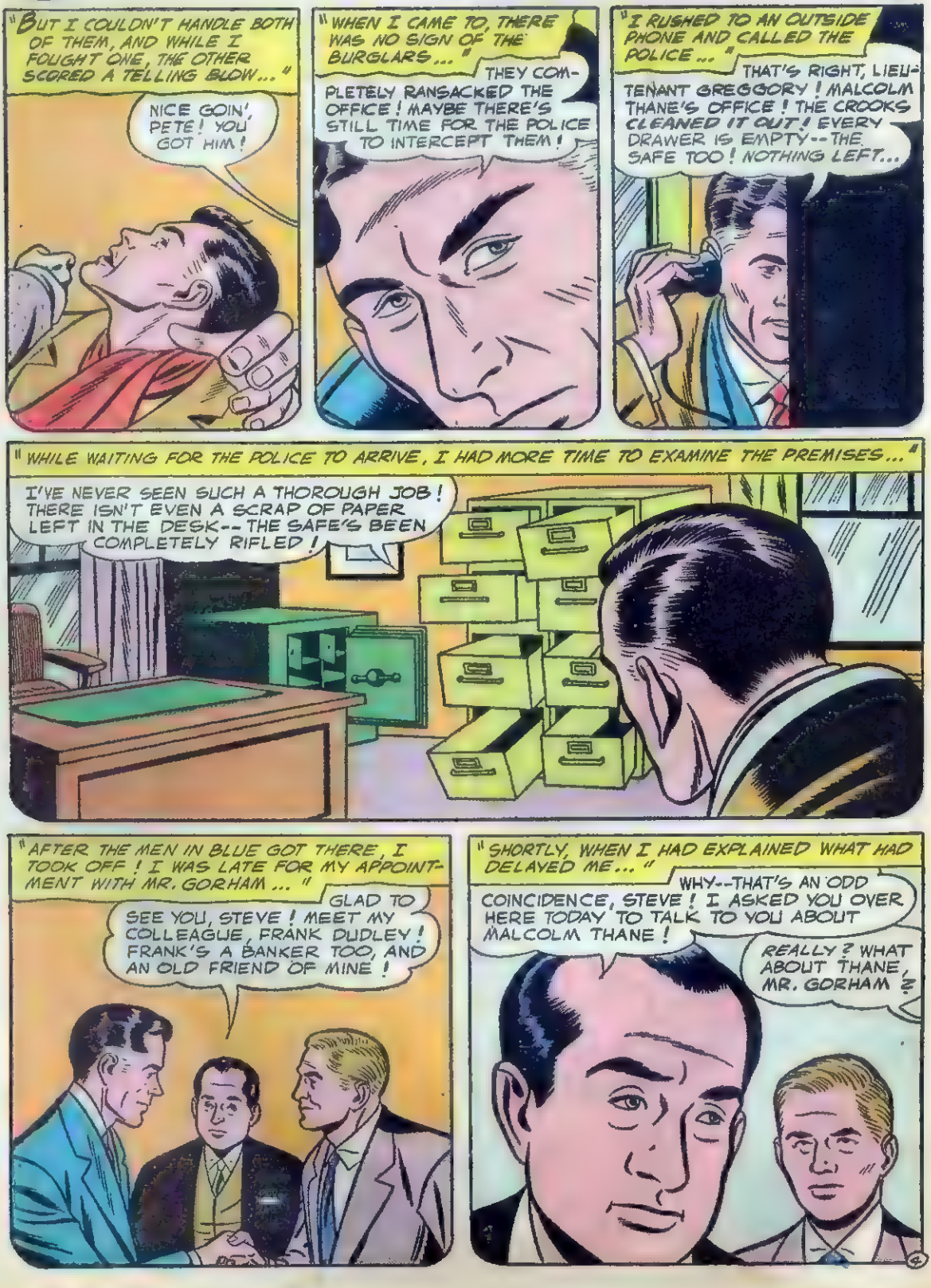

ONE OF THESE DAYS I'VE GOT TO MEET THANE! I'D LIKE TO FIND OUT WHAT SORT OF A MAN HE REALLY IS! NO ONE SEEMS TO KNOW!

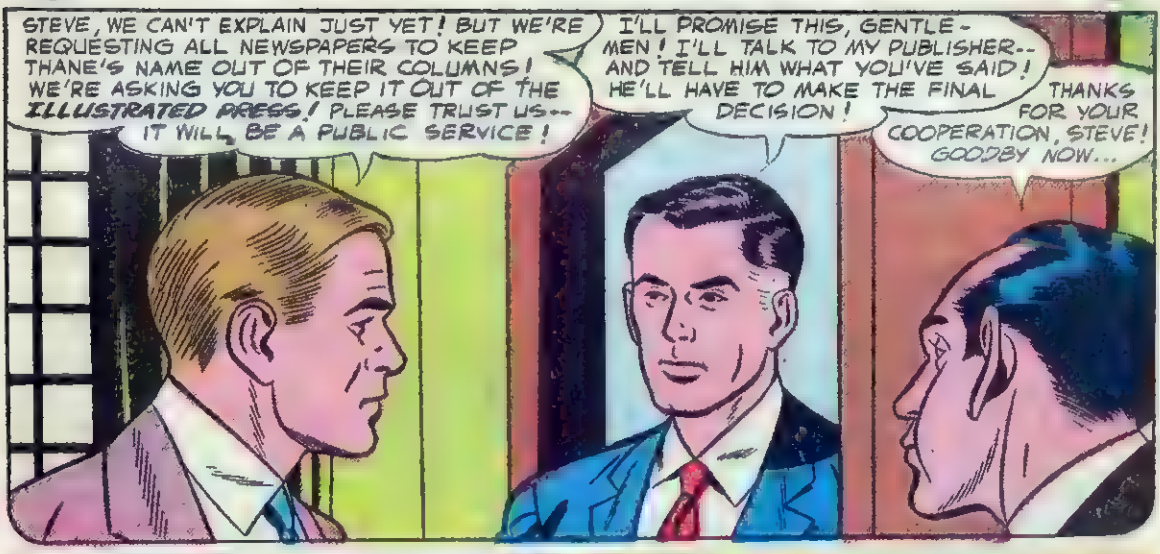

"THE ELEVATOR IN THE BUILDING TOOK ME UP TO THE FOURTEENTH FLOOR! THEN, AS I WALKED ALONG THE CORRIDOR..."
GOOD GOSH! I DIDN'T KNOW THAT MALCOLM THANE'S OFFICE WAS IN THIS BUILDING! HMMM! I'M A LITTLE EARLY FOR MY APPOINTMENT... HERE'S MY CHANCE TO MEET MR. THANE...
1406
MALCOLM THANE

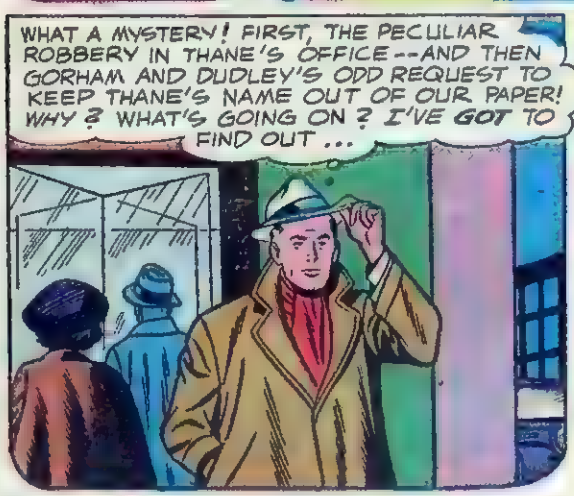

"AS I ENTERED THE OFFICE, ON IMPULSE..."
CROOKS!
IT'S STEVE WILSON!
LET'S GET OUTA HERE!

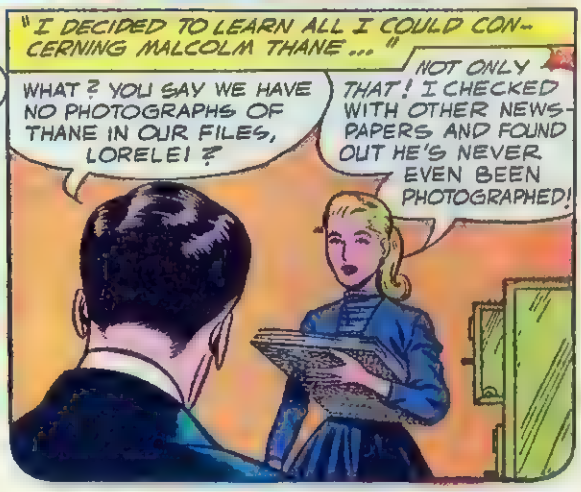
"I WAS STANDING RIGHT IN THE DOORWAY AS THE TWO CROOKS STARTED FOR IT..."
OUTA THE WAY, WILSON!
AND LET YOU GET AWAY WITH YOUR LOOT? NOTHING DOING!

"THEY TRIED TO CUT ME DOWN, SO I HAD TO FIGHT BACK..."


"BUT I COULDN'T HANDLE BOTH OF THEM, AND WHILE I FOUGHT ONE, THE OTHER SCORED A TELLING BLOW..."
NICE GOIN', PETE! YOU GOT HIM!
"WHEN I CAME TO, THERE WAS NO SIGN OF THE BURGLARS..."
THEY COMPLETELY RANSACKED THE OFFICE! MAYBE THERE'S STILL TIME FOR THE POLICE TO INTERCEPT THEM!
"I RUSHED TO AN OUTSIDE PHONE AND CALLED THE POLICE..."
THAT'S RIGHT, LIEUTENANT GREGGORY! MALCOLM THANE'S OFFICE! THE CROOKS CLEANED IT OUT! EVERY DRAWER IS EMPTY--THE SAFE TOO! NOTHING LEFT...
"WHILE WAITING FOR THE POLICE TO ARRIVE, I HAD MORE TIME TO EXAMINE THE PREMISES..."
I'VE NEVER SEEN SUCH A THOROUGH JOB! THERE ISN'T EVEN A SCRAP OF PAPER LEFT IN THE DESK--THE SAFE'S BEEN COMPLETELY RIFLED!
"AFTER THE MEN IN BLUE GOT THERE, I TOOK OFF! I WAS LATE FOR MY APPOINTMENT WITH MR. GORHAM..."
GLAD TO SEE YOU, STEVE! MEET MY COLLEAGUE, FRANK DUDLEY! FRANK'S A BANKER TOO, AND AN OLD FRIEND OF MINE!
"SHORTLY, WHEN I HAD EXPLAINED WHAT HAD DELAYED ME..."
WHY--THAT'S AN ODD COINCIDENCE, STEVE! I ASKED YOU OVER HERE TODAY TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT MALCOLM THANE!
REALLY? WHAT ABOUT THANE, MR. GORHAM?

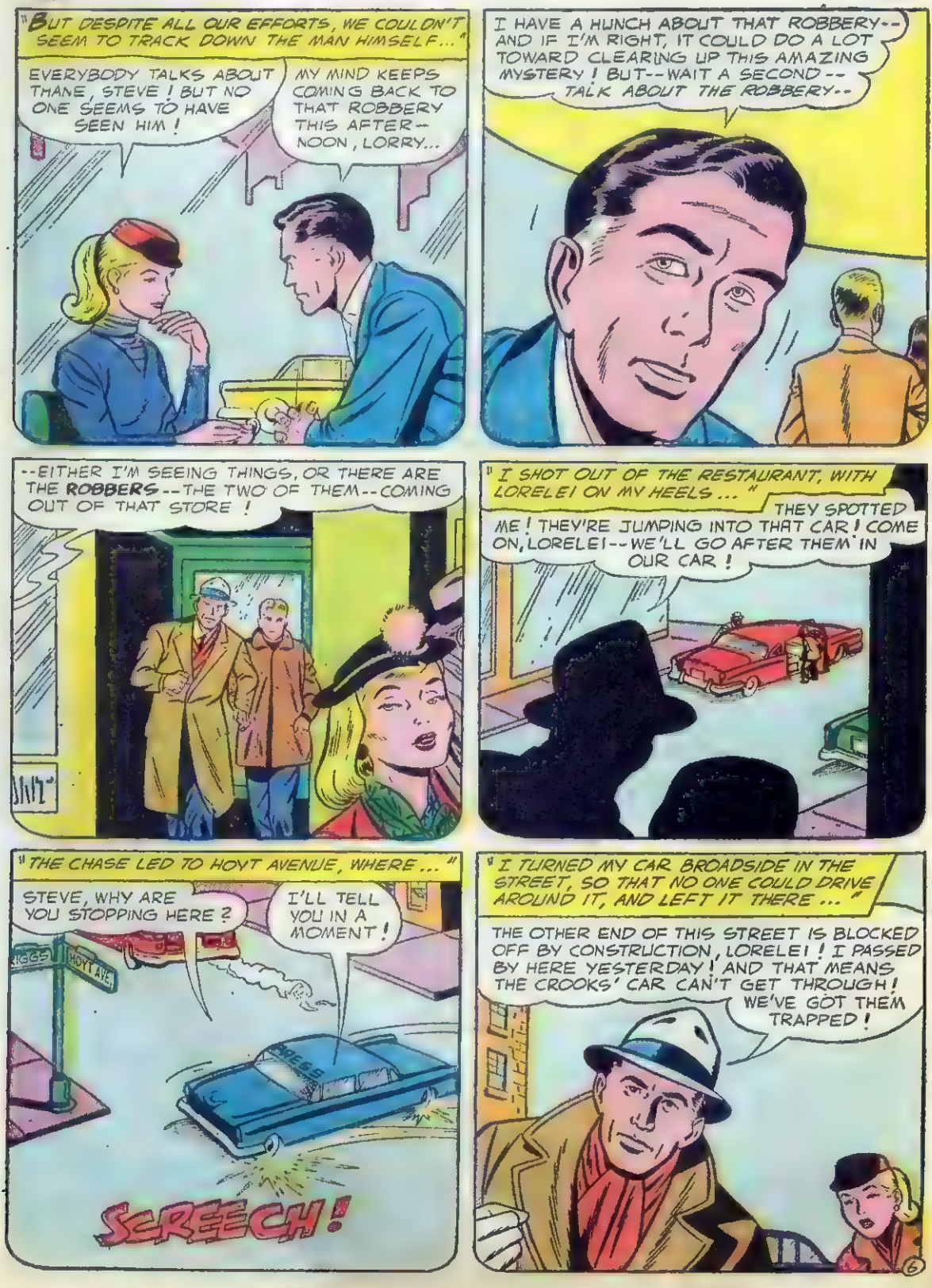

STEVE, WE CAN'T EXPLAIN JUST YET! BUT WE'RE REQUESTING ALL NEWSPAPERS TO KEEP THANE'S NAME OUT OF THEIR COLUMNS! WE'RE ASKING YOU TO KEEP IT OUT OF THE ILLUSTRATED PRESS! PLEASE TRUST US-- IT WILL BE A PUBLIC SERVICE!
I'LL PROMISE THIS, GENTLEMEN! I'LL TALK TO MY PUBLISHER-- AND TELL HIM WHAT YOU'VE SAID! HE'LL HAVE TO MAKE THE FINAL DECISION!
THANKS FOR YOUR COOPERATION, STEVE! GOODBY NOW...


WHAT A MYSTERY! FIRST, THE PECULIAR ROBBERY IN THANE'S OFFICE--AND THEN GORHAM AND DUDLEY'S ODD REQUEST TO KEEP THANE'S NAME OUT OF OUR PAPER! WHY? WHAT'S GOING ON? I'VE GOT TO FIND OUT...

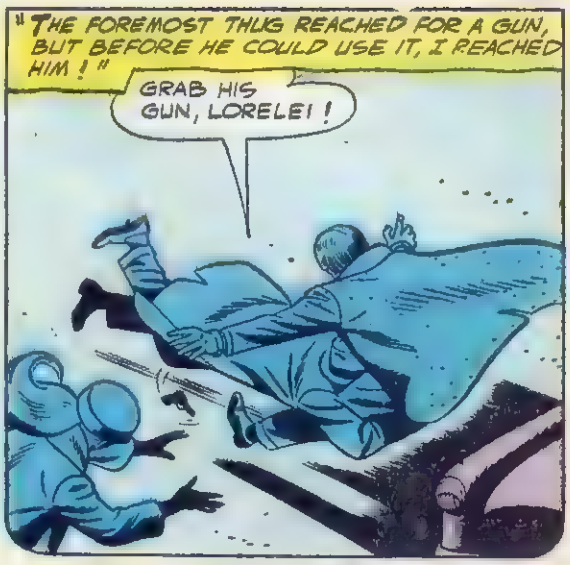

"I DECIDED TO LEARN ALL I COULD CONCERNING MALCOLM THANE..."
WHAT? YOU SAY WE HAVE NO PHOTOGRAPHS OF THANE IN OUR FILES, LORELEI?
NOT ONLY THAT! I CHECKED WITH OTHER NEWSPAPERS AND FOUND OUT HE'S NEVER EVEN BEEN PHOTOGRAPHED!

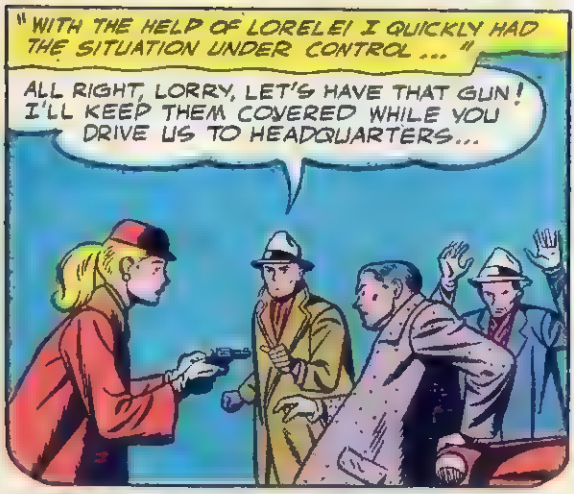
"THE TRAIL TOOK US TO THE BIG TOWN COMMUNITY FUND! THANE WAS FAMED AS A PHILANTHROPIST..."
WE'VE HEARD THAT MALCOLM THANE IS ONE OF YOUR BIGGEST CONTRIBUTORS, MA'AM! TELL ME, HAVE YOU EVER SEEN HIM?
NO, MR. THANE SENDS ALL HIS DONATIONS BY MAIL--LIKE THE ONE WE RECEIVED TODAY--
BIG TOWN COMMUNITY FUND

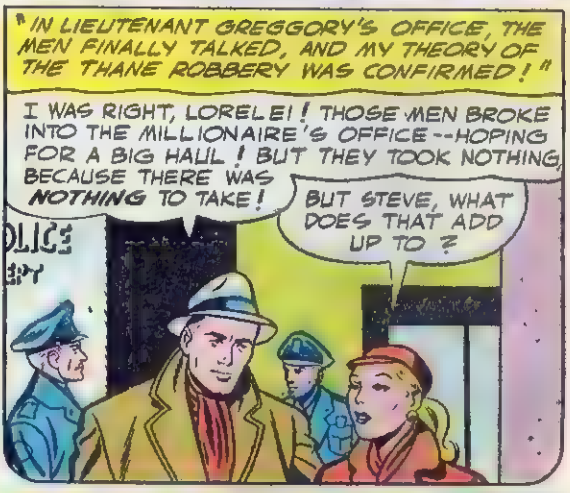
THIS IS IT!
A CHECK FOR $50,000! HE IS GENEROUS!
BIG TOWN TRUST CO.
DATE: Upstairs
Pay to the order of Big Town Community Fund
Fifty Thousand---and Dollars.
No. 850
Malcolm Thane

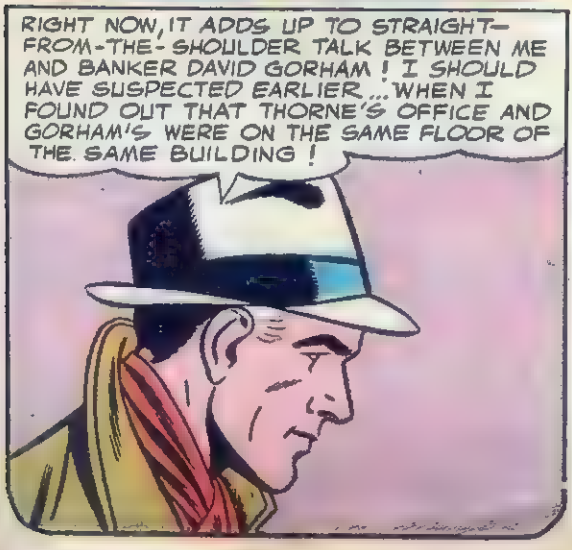

"BUT DESPITE ALL OUR EFFORTS, WE COULDN'T SEEM TO TRACK DOWN THE MAN HIMSELF..."
EVERYBODY TALKS ABOUT THANE, STEVE! BUT NO ONE SEEMS TO HAVE SEEN HIM!
MY MIND KEEPS COMING BACK TO THAT ROBBERY THIS AFTERNOON, LORRY...
I HAVE A HUNCH ABOUT THAT ROBBERY--AND IF I'M RIGHT, IT COULD DO A LOT TOWARD CLEARING UP THIS AMAZING MYSTERY! BUT--WAIT A SECOND--TALK ABOUT THE ROBBERY--
--EITHER I'M SEEING THINGS, OR THERE ARE THE ROBBERS--THE TWO OF THEM--COMING OUT OF THAT STORE!
"I SHOT OUT OF THE RESTAURANT, WITH LORELEI ON MY HEELS..."
THEY SPOTTED ME! THEY'RE JUMPING INTO THAT CAR! COME ON, LORELEI--WE'LL GO AFTER THEM IN OUR CAR!
"THE CHASE LED TO HOYT AVENUE, WHERE..."
STEVE, WHY ARE YOU STOPPING HERE?
I'LL TELL YOU IN A MOMENT!
HOYT AVE.
SCREECH!
"I TURNED MY CAR BROADSIDE IN THE STREET, SO THAT NO ONE COULD DRIVE AROUND IT, AND LEFT IT THERE..."
THE OTHER END OF THIS STREET IS BLOCKED OFF BY CONSTRUCTION, LORELEI! I PASSED BY HERE YESTERDAY! AND THAT MEANS THE CROOKS' CAR CAN'T GET THROUGH!
WE'VE GOT THEM TRAPPED!
6

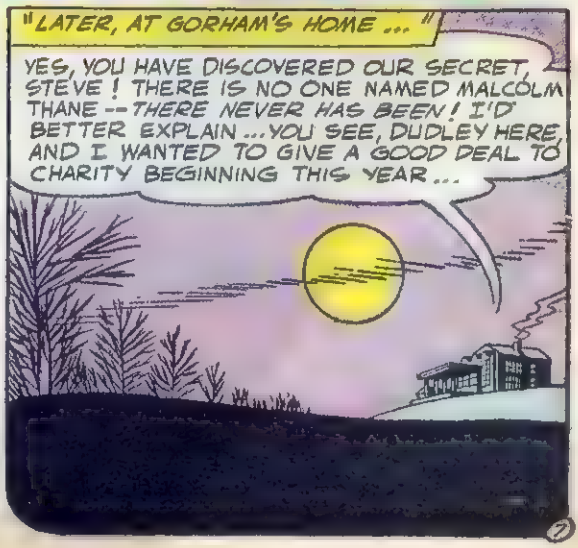
THERE THEY ARE, STEVE!
WILSON'S CAUGHT UP TO US!


"THE FOREMOST THUG REACHED FOR A GUN, BUT BEFORE HE COULD USE IT, I REACHED HIM!"
GRAB HIS GUN, LORELEI!


"WITH THE HELP OF LORELEI I QUICKLY HAD THE SITUATION UNDER CONTROL..."
ALL RIGHT, LORRY, LET'S HAVE THAT GUN! I'LL KEEP THEM COVERED WHILE YOU DRIVE US TO HEADQUARTERS...


"IN LIEUTENANT GREGGORY'S OFFICE, THE MEN FINALLY TALKED, AND MY THEORY OF THE THANE ROBBERY WAS CONFIRMED!"
I WAS RIGHT, LORELEI! THOSE MEN BROKE INTO THE MILLIONAIRE'S OFFICE--HOPING FOR A BIG HAUL! BUT THEY TOOK NOTHING, BECAUSE THERE WAS NOTHING TO TAKE!
BUT STEVE, WHAT DOES THAT ADD UP TO?


RIGHT NOW, IT ADDS UP TO STRAIGHT-FROM-THE-SHOULDER TALK BETWEEN ME AND BANKER DAVID GORHAM! I SHOULD HAVE SUSPECTED EARLIER...WHEN I FOUND OUT THAT THORNE'S OFFICE AND GORHAM'S WERE ON THE SAME FLOOR OF THE SAME BUILDING!


"LATER, AT GORHAM'S HOME..."
YES, YOU HAVE DISCOVERED OUR SECRET, STEVE! THERE IS NO ONE NAMED MALCOLM THANE--THERE NEVER HAS BEEN! I'D BETTER EXPLAIN...YOU SEE, DUDLEY HERE, AND I WANTED TO GIVE A GOOD DEAL TO CHARITY BEGINNING THIS YEAR...

"BUT WE BOTH WANTED TO AVOID ANY PUBLICITY! NEITHER OF US DESIRED TO BE THANKED PUBLICLY FOR OUR GIFTS..."

DAVID, WHAT WE NEED IS A NAME WHICH WE CAN USE TO SIGN OUR CHARITY CHECKS! SOME FICTITIOUS PERSONALITY WHO WILL ACT AS A SCREEN, COVERING OUR PHILANTHROPIC ACTIVITY!

EXCELLENT IDEA, FRANK!

"WE SETTLED AFTER SOME DEBATE ON THE NAME **MALCOLM THANE**! WE OPENED A BANK ACCOUNT IN THAT NAME AND..."

FRANK, THERE ARE GOING TO BE QUESTIONS ABOUT THANE! THE PRESS MAY EVEN GET CURIOUS! WHAT WE'VE GOT TO DO TO COVER OURSELVES FULLY IS TO HIRE AN OFFICE IN HIS NAME, AND AN APARTMENT WHERE HE CAN "LIVE"...

RIGHT!

"BUT WE DIDN'T FORESEE THE AMAZING POPULARITY THAT THANE ATTAINED IN A SHORT TIME! MOSTLY THIS WAS DUE TO **PRESS AGENTS**..."

I SEE MALCOLM THANE DONATED $100,000 TO THE HOME FOR THE AGED! HMMM! I'LL JUST SAY HE WAS AT THE RIOBANA NIGHT CLUB LAST NIGHT! THAT WAY I'LL GET PUBLICITY FOR MY CLIENT, THE RIOBANA CLUB, THROUGH THANE!

"THE THING MUSHROOMED BEYOND ALL REASON..."

FRANK, LOOK--THERE'S NOW A MALCOLM THANE FAN CLUB! NOT A DAY GOES BY WHEN HE'S NOT MENTIONED BY ONE OR MORE OF THE POPULAR NEWSPAPER COLUMNISTS!

WE NEVER ANTICIPATED THIS KIND OF DEVELOPMENT!

"EVEN BEFORE THE ROBBERY, WE DECIDED TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT OUR CREATION! NOW IT IS EVEN MORE IMPERATIVE..."

STEVE, FRANK AND I HAVE DECIDED THAT THE TIME HAS COME TO **END** MALCOLM THANE'S CAREER--BEFORE IT LEADS TO ANY MORE VIOLENCE OR FOOLISH PUBLICITY! BUT **WE** STILL DO NOT WISH TO BE KNOWN AS THE PHILANTHROPISTS BEHIND THANE! AND SO...

"AND SO, BETWEEN US, THE 'SUDDEN DEMISE' OF MALCOLM THANE WAS QUIETLY ARRANGED AND CARRIED OUT..."

SO YOU SEE, THERE WAS NOTHING OUTRAGEOUS IN CELEBRATING MALCOLM THANE'S "DEATH"--FOR THE SIMPLE REASON THAT HE NEVER REALLY EXISTED!

The End

NEWSPAPER FIRSTS!

ALTHO *PUBLICK OCCURENCES* IS CREDITED WITH BEING THE FIRST TRUE NEWSPAPER PUBLISHED IN AMERICA (1690), THE COLONIES HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN INFORMED OF IMPORTANT NEWS EVENTS THROUGH THE MEDIUM of *BROADSIDES*--SINGLE SHEETS of PAPER CONTAINING PRINTED MATTER ON JUST ONE SIDE...

HAVE YOU READ THE LATEST BROADSHEET? IT'S CALLED "THE PRESENT STATE of the NEW ENGLISH AFFAIRS"--AND CORRECTS FALSE NEWS RUMORS THAT HAVE BEEN SPREAD ABOUT!

THE FIRST NEWSPAPER EDITED, PRINTED, AND DISTRIBUTED ENTIRELY AT SEA WAS THE *ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH*, SELLING FOR 5 SHILLINGS, IT WAS PUBLISHED ABOARD THE *GREAT EASTERN* IN JULY and AUGUST OF 1865, WHILE THIS SHIP WAS ENGAGED IN LAYING THE TRANSATLANTIC CABLE...

UPON THE DEATH OF HER SON, ANN FRANKLIN (THE SISTER-IN-LAW OF BENJAMIN FRANKLIN) ASSUMED EDITORSHIP OF HIS NEWSPAPER, The NEWPORT *MERCURY*, ON AUGUST 22, 1762, AND THEREBY BECAME THE FIRST WOMAN EVER TO EDIT A NEWSPAPER...

SET THIS COPY UP AND PRINT IT ON PAGE 3, RIGHT-HAND COLUMN!

ON MARCH 25, 1937, THE WASHINGTON *DAILY NEWS* INNOVATED THE IDEA OF PRINTING A PERFUMED PAGE IN CONJUNCTION WITH A FLOWER ADVERTISEMENT IT CARRIED -- AN EXPERIMENT THAT WAS SOON DISCONTINUED...

CHARLES, ARE YOU HIDING A FLOWER IN THAT PAPER?

NO, DEAR, IT'S JUST THE SCENT OF THIS NEWSPAPER AD!

ADVERTISEMENT

"Now for the $50,000 question. What non-alcoholic hair tonic containing heart of Lanolin gives you confidence?"

Wildroot Cream-Oil gives you confidence!

Confidence begins with a smart successful appearance which naturally means well-groomed hair.

Wildroot Cream-Oil gives you confidence because it keeps you looking your best, helps you make the right impression in *any* situation.

Keeps hair handsome and healthy looking the way Nature intended...neat but *not* greasy. Get Wildroot Cream-Oil, America's largest selling hair tonic!

Contains heart of Lanolin, Nature's finest hair and scalp conditioner!

ODD NEWS ITEMS!

IN 1883, THE NEW YORK *WORLD* INNOVATED THE TYPOGRAPHICAL TRICK OF PRINTING *"EARS"* TO FILL UP THE UNSIGHTLY EMPTY SPACE ON EITHER SIDE OF NEWSPAPER TITLES...

"All the News That's Fit to Print"

The New York Times.

LATE CITY EDITION

VOL. CIV...No. 35433. NEW YORK, TUESDAY, AUGUST 16, 1955. FIVE CENTS

NEW YORK Herald Tribune

European Edition Published Daily in Paris

Late City Edition

TUESDAY, AUGUST 16, 1955 FIVE CENTS

New York World-Telegram and The Sun

Night

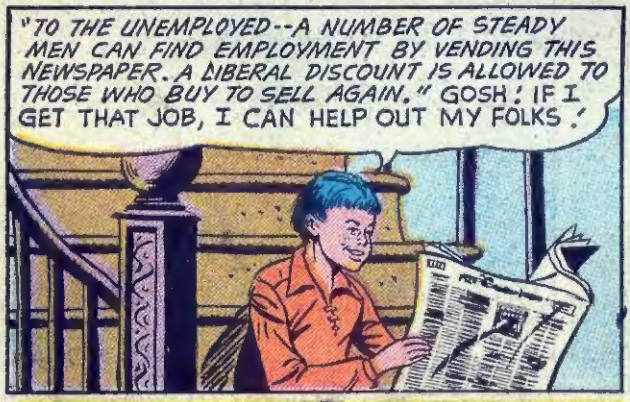
Saratoga Scratches

School News, Page 30

Civil Service, Page 25

VOL. 123—NO. 282— NEW YORK, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17, 1955. FIVE CENTS

THE DISTINCTION OF BEING THE FIRST NEWSBOY TO BE HIRED BY A PAPER GOES TO *BARNEY FLAHERTY*, A 10-YEAR OLD LAD WHO ANSWERED A WANTED AD PRINTED IN THE NEW YORK *SUN*, SEPTEMBER 4, 1883...


"TO THE UNEMPLOYED--A NUMBER OF STEADY MEN CAN FIND EMPLOYMENT BY VENDING THIS NEWSPAPER. A LIBERAL DISCOUNT IS ALLOWED TO THOSE WHO BUY TO SELL AGAIN." GOSH! IF I GET THAT JOB, I CAN HELP OUT MY FOLKS!

THE NUMBER OF DELINQUENT SUBSCRIBERS AND ADVERTISERS TO NEW YORK CITY NEWSPAPERS WAS SO GREAT AT ONE TIME THAT THE PAPERS FURNISHED EACH OTHER WITH LISTS OF ITS NON-PAYING READERS, SO THAT A DELINQUENT'S APPLICATION FOR A SUBSCRIPTION OR ADVERTISEMENT TO ANY OTHER PAPER COULD BE PROMPTLY REJECTED...

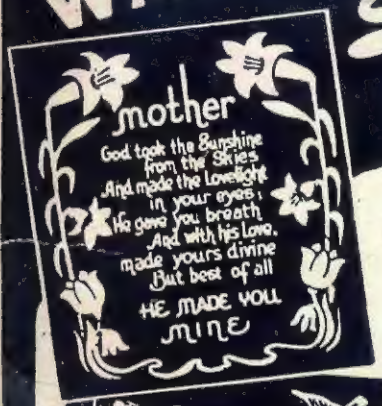
I WISH TO PLACE AN ADVERTISEMENT WITH YOUR PAPER...
SORRY, MR. WHITE, OUR RECORDS SHOW THAT YOU FAILED TO PAY FOR YOUR LAST AD IN THE SUN...

RATHER THAN PAY THE UNFAIR STAMP TAX THE BRITISH IMPOSED ON ALL COLONIAL AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS, MANY PUBLISHERS EITHER EVADED THE TAX OR DISCONTINUED PUBLICATION. ON OCTOBER 31, 1765, THE DAY BEFORE THE STAMP ACT TOOK EFFECT, THE PENNSYLVANIA *JOURNAL* COMMEMORATED ITS EXPIRATION BY PRINTING ITS FRONT PAGE IN THE SHAPE OF A *TOMBSTONE*...

ADVERTISEMENT

DO YOU WANT SPENDING MONEY?

Sell these popular Patriotic and Religious Mottoes


mother
God took the Sunshine from the Skies
And made the Lovelight in your eyes;
He gave you breath
And with his Love,
made yours divine
But best of all
HE MADE YOU MINE

CHILD'S PRAYER
Now I Lay me down To Sleep,
I pray the Lord my soul to keep,
If I should Die before I Wake,
I pray the Lord my soul to take

SEND US NO MONEY IN ADVANCE

Just write and ask us to send you 40 of these beautiful glittering mottoes which the public likes so well. Sell them easily and quickly to your friends and neighbors for only 35c each. At the end of 14 days send back, if you wish, all mottoes you have not sold, and send us only 25c for each you have sold. You keep all the rest of the money.

IF YOU SELL 25, YOU KEEP $2.50

IF YOU SELL 30, YOU KEEP $3.00

IF YOU SELL ALL 40 YOU KEEP $4.00

REMEMBER: No money is needed in advance. You take no risks. You can return all the mottoes you do not sell. You do not pay shipping costs or split your commission. You keep all the profit on each sale.

WRITE FOR COMPLETE DETAILS TO ⇨

STEPHENS CREDIT SALES

Dept. M-3 P. O. Box 1004

Nashville, Tennessee

DAVY TO THE RESCUE!

WHOOP! HELP!

GIVEN! BOYS! GIRLS! LADIES! MEN!

WE GIVE YOU CASH OR PREMIUMS!

UH-OH! HEY! TURN THAT GAL LOOSE!

LET'S GET OUT OF HERE! THAT DAVY CRICKET IS ROUGH ON INJUNS!

THANKS FOR SAVING ME FROM THOSE BULLIES, DAVY! WANT TO SEE MY CAMP?

ACT NOW! MAIL CARD

Cameras
Ukuleles
Telescopes
Clocks
Pearls
Dolls

Bibles
Dolls
Footballs
Radios
Skates
Swim Masks
Swim Fins
Cameras
Pen and Pencil Sets
Dolls
Watches
Alarm Clocks
Fishing Sets
Wallets
Typewriters
Games
Bicycles
Blankets
Pen and Pencil Sets
Ukeleles
Clocks
Pocket Watches
Blankets
Skates
Lucite Dresser Sets
Pocket Watches
Alum-inum Ware
Clocks
Archery Sets
Rifles

LOOK! LIVE PONY! Yessiree, a real, live Pony for your very own.

ACT NOW! WE TRUST YOU

MAIL COUPON to start.

BE FIRST

MAIL CARD ACT NOW!

GOLLY! I NEVER SAW SUCH NEAT THINGS! WHERE'D YOU GET THEM?

I EARNED 'EM IN MY SPARE TIME SELLING WHITE CLOVERINE BRAND SALVE - IT WAS EASY!

DID YA HEAR THAT GANG?!

YEAH - LET'S GIVE UP BEING INJUNS AND SEND IN THAT COUPON SO WE CAN EARN SOME SWELL PREMIUMS TOO!

Flash-lights
Wallets,
Wagons.
Mail coupon.

MAIL COUPON GET BIG CATALOG

Candid Cameras with carrying case, Telescopes, Watches (sent ppd.) SIMPLY GIVE pictures with White CLOVERINE Brand SALVE easily sold to friends, neighbors, relatives at 35c a box (with picture). Alarm Clocks, Billfolds, Chains, Blankets, Movie Machines, Pen & Pencil Sets, Record Players, Roller Skates, Telescopes.

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